

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Declaration on MFO -- The Government Press Office published the U.S.-Israeli joint declaration concerning the participation of European countries in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), which notes that the United States has received "clarifications" from the United Kingdom, France, Italy and the Netherlands acknowledging that the role of the MFO is as described in the relevant Egyptian-Israeli agreements and that these states attach no political conditions, "linked to Venice or otherwise," to their participation in the force. According to the declaration, the United States and Israel also agree that the basis for participation in the MFO by any country is the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and protocol, that the functions and responsibilities of the MFO are defined in the peace treaty and the protocol and that there can be no derogation from or reservations about them. The declaration includes a statement of U.S. understanding of Israel's concerns regarding the declarations by the four European participants about their decision to participate and U.S. acknowledgement that some of the points in those declarations are at variance with U.S. positions on the future of the peace process. It reiterates U.S. and Israeli commitment to the Camp David agreements.

Jerusalem radio's English service reported that the European countries will be required to furnish letters of acceptance of the declaration and that Israel may reserve the right to make these letters public at some future date. It added that the Europeans will not be asked to retreat from their stated positions regarding peace moves in the Middle East.

Strategic Cooperation -- Citing sources in Jerusalem, IDF radio reported that the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation leaves Israel free to defend itself against the states surrounding it and gives it the right to "demand" U.S. intervention in situations that Israel would find difficult to handle alone. At the same time, it contains a "breakthrough" in the sphere of Israeli arms exports that include U.S.-made components, improves the distribution of U.S. aid funds to include arms procurement in Israel and provides for intelligence cooperation. According to MA'ARIV, some of these points were agreed on by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in talks with members of the U.S. administration after the memorandum was signed, and they are to remain classified. MA'ARIV said other points include agreement on joint exercises, storage of combat equipment and aid to Israel's economic and military infrastructures. Jerusalem radio stressed that the use of Israeli Defense Forces under the provisions of the memorandum will be determined by the extent of the "direct threat" to Israel's survival.

Begin Interview -- In an interview with the French magazine LE FIGARO, Prime Minister Menahem Begin asserted that Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's Middle East peace plan is meant to "liquidate" Israel gradually. He denied that the plan includes recognition of Israel and said that even if it did, recognition provides no protection for the future. Begin added that the United States, France and the United Kingdom are making a very serious mistake in attempting to win Saudi Arabia as an ally, because Saudi Arabia is "rotten to the core and plunged in medieval darkness" and would therefore be an untrustworthy, weak and unstable ally.

Asked about the Syrian missiles in Lebanon, Begin replied that he had given the United States time to have them withdrawn, but that the situation could not go on "indefinitely."

Egypt

According to Cairo radio, President Husni Mubarak held a 3-hour meeting in Aswan with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. At a press conference after the meeting, reported by the radio, President Mubarak said they had discussed the positions of and disputes among the Arab countries, as well as the Fes summit. He added that Egypt "opens its arms" to any Arab state and stressed that it will not respond to attacks by its "Arab brothers." President Numayri told reporters that he and President Mubarak had agreed to work for Arab solidarity, but he denied he was in Aswan to mediate between Egypt and any other state. Numayri went on to express regret at the results of the Fes summit conference, asserting that it failed because Libya, Syria and other states are working to divide the Arabs for tactical reasons.

Syria

Damascus radio broadcasts the text of President Hafiz al-Asad's presidential decree "amending" the cabinet under Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. According to the Jordanian newspaper AR-RAY, citing QNA, the new cabinet includes two communists -- one as minister of communications and one as a minister of state.

Jordan

Amman radio reported that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib met with King Husayn to review the Middle East situation and the Lebanese problem. Other Amman radio reports noted Habib's separate meetings with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim.

PDRY-YAR

San'a' radio broadcast the text of the agreement signed in Aden on 2 December by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, which provides for the establishment of a joint council to follow up and facilitate the implementation of the unity agreements the two countries have signed. A joint ministerial committee will also be established to oversee the implementation of joint projects and a secretariat will undertake coordination of joint economic, educational, cultural and information projects listed in the agreement. The agreement also stipulates that citizens of the two countries will have the right to travel from one to the other with an ordinary identity card.

The secretariat will also coordinate foreign policy, and the two countries pledge to oppose the establishment of "hostile" foreign military bases in the region and to take political, diplomatic and economic measures against the United States and other states that support Israel.

Saudi Arabia

Riyadh radio reported that Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani denied a 1 December Washington POST story that Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states had offered Oman \$1.2 billion to induce it to refuse military facilities on its territories to forces foreign to the region. Yamani called such reports part of a renewed Western media campaign against the Kingdom.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****Middle East and Africa**

Vol V No 233

4 December 1981

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Urges Confrontation of U.S.-Israeli Alliance

A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

AL-ANBA' Condemns Omani Cooperation With U.S. [2 Dec]

C 1

OMAN

PDRY Statement on Helicopter Landings Denied

C 1

PDRY

Oman Accused of Territorial Violations

C 2

YAR's Salih Concludes Visit, Returns Home

C 2

YAR-PDRY Agreement

C 3

Foreign Minister Departs for France With Message

C 7

'Ali Nasir Delivers Speech at Writers Conference

C 7

SAUDI ARABIA

Minister Denies \$1.2-Billion Offer to Oman

C 9

AL-MADINAH Editorial Assails Iranian Regime

C 10

[29 Nov]

EGYPT

Mubarak, Numayri Surprise Meeting in Aswan 3 Dec

D 1

Troops Hold Exercises

D 2

Autonomy Talks To Resume in Israel 10-17 Dec

D 3

AL-AHRAM Comments on Effect of U.S.-Israeli Pact

D 3

Veil MENA Interview on EC Mideast Stance

D 3

People's Assembly Member To Go on Trial [London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT]

D 4

Journalist Haykal Interviewed by Opposition Paper

D 5

[AL-AHRAR 30 Nov]

Oil Minister Says OPEC Membership Not Desired

D 9

Mubarak's Economic, Internal Policies Viewed [AL-AHRAM 22 Nov]

D 9

Report on Opposition Party Support for Mubarak

D 10

Questioning of 745 Detainees Completed [AFP]

D 10

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communique 541

E 1

JORDAN

King Husayn Confers With Philip Habib 3 Dec

F 1

Al-Qasim Confers With Habib

F 1

Dailies on U.S.-Israeli Agreement, Habib

F 1

King Husayn Receives Soviet Envoy Sytenko

F 2

LEBANON

Parliamentary Committee Gauges Fes, Other Issues	G 1
ADF Forces Halt Beirut Clashes; Clash in South	G 3
Sporadic Violence Continues	G 3

SYRIA

Radio Carries Decree Reshuffling Cabinet	H 1
Further on Reshuffle [Amman AR-RA'Y 4 Dec]	H 2
Habib Mission Is To Revive Eisenhower Doctrine [AL-BA'TH 29 Nov]	H 2

ISRAEL

Habib Meets With Shamir on Lebanon, Missiles	I 1
Information Campaign on Cooperation Memorandum [HATZOFE 3 Dec]	I 1
Government Press Office Publishes MFO Statement [3 Dec]	I 1
European Approval of MFO Paper Insisted on [HA'ARETZ 4 Dec]	I 3
Sharon's African Visit Linked to Strategic Memo	I 3
IDF Radio Reports More Details on Strategic Memo	I 4
LE FIGARO Interviews Begin on Fahd Plan, AWACS [28 Nov-4 Dec]	I 4
President Navon Question's Fahd's Sincerity [L'ESPRESSO 29 Nov]	I 8
DAVAR: French Magazine Reports Khaddam's Remarks [3 Dec]	I 9
POST: Poll Shows Increased Support for Likud [4 Dec]	I 10
YEDI'OT AHARONOT Poll Shows Support for Rabin [4 Dec]	I 10
Briefs: Immigration From the USSR; Trade Deficit Up	I 11

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Afro-Arab Conference Set For 6-9 Dec in Luanda [ANGOP]	P 1
--	-----

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Weinberger Visit 'Undermines' Sahara Solution	Q 1
Algiers Reports Algerian-French Joint Statement	Q 1
Mitterrand Cables Bendjedid	Q 2

LIBYA

Rene Told Troops Ready 'To Defend' Seychelles	Q 2
JANA: CIA Document to NATO Attacks Libya	Q 2
American-Arab Society Cables Al-Qadhdhafi	Q 2
Sharon Offers Africans Help Against Libya	Q 3

MOROCCO

College Students Begin 24-Hour Protest Strike [AFP]	Q 3
---	-----

SUDAN

Numayri Returns From Talks With Egypt's Mubarak	Q 3
President's Comments	Q 4
Numayri Blames Al-Asad for Damascus Massacre	Q 5
Chadian Justice Minister Arrives in Khartoum	Q 5
President Appoints Socialist Union Secretaries	Q 5

TUNISIA

Former Labor Leader Pardoned by Bourguiba	Q 6
Elected Union Chairman	Q 6
GDR Foreign Trade Minister Departs 3 Dec	Q 6

CENTRAL AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Nation Marks Anniversary in Austere Manner [AFP]	S 1
Party Claims Nigeria Held, Tortured Leader [AFP]	S 1

CHAD

Transport Minister Says OAU Force Must Fight FAN [AFP]	S 1
OAU Representative: Forces Will Defend Zones [AFP]	S 2
Nigerian Commander of Peace Force Arrives [AFP]	S 2

ZAIRE

Mobutu on Chad Force, Reagan Talks, Israel	S 3
AZAP Commentary Examines Zaire-U.S. Relations	S 4
PRC Vice Foreign Minister Visits Kinshasa	S 5
Meets State Commissioner	S 5
First State Commissioner Presents Budget	S 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Air Commander, General Staff Deputy Dismissed	U 1
French Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 2 Dec [AFP]	U 1
Cuban Armed Forces Anniversary Celebrated	U 1

BOTSWANA

President Denies Reports on Soviet Advisers [AFP]	U 1
---	-----

MOZAMBIQUE

Frelimo Official Receives El Salvador Delegation	U 2
--	-----

SWAZILAND

Security Forces Clash With ANC Guerrillas [AFP]	U 2
---	-----

ZAMBIA

Portugal's Eanes Arrives 29 Nov on 3-Day Visit	U 3
Private Talks Report [Lisbon]	U 3
Communique Issued [Lisbon]	U 3

ZIMBABWE

NAN Interview With Prime Minister Mugabe	U 4
Foreign Minister on Namibia, SWAPO Cooperation	U 5
Former Prime Minister Muzorewa Scores Mugabe [Johannesburg]	U 5

PLO URGES CONFRONTATION OF U.S.-ISRAELI ALLIANCE

JN031914 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] An official spokesman of the Palestinian revolution leadership has stated the following:

Masses of our Arab nation, sons of our Palestinian and Lebanese people, the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation treaty, which was agreed upon between U.S. President Reagan and the terrorist Menahem Begin during the latter's visit to Washington a few months ago, today acquires a more serious nature following its signature by Israeli war minister Ari'el Sharon and his U.S. counterpart Weinberger. With these signatures, the treaty has been put into actual force, thereby exposing the region to great perils and threatening its security, stability and safety.

The true nature of the U.S.-Israeli treaty is clear to everyone in our Arab region despite the false slogans shrouding it. Since the fifties, U.S. imperialism has been hiding behind such slogans to strike at Arab liberation movements, to threaten the security, safety and stability of the Arab peoples and to plunder Arab resources and wealth.

This comprehensive U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance primarily threatens the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people and their nationalist movement. It also threatens the destiny of our entire Arab nation. The attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the Israeli air raids on Baghdad and the savage raids on the Palestinian Lebanese peoples which reached their climax with the raid on Beirut is nothing but a part of this alliance's plans, which are expected to develop further by the launching of long-range and more dangerous acts of aggression against all Arab territories, including the oil areas, as intimated by (Tischler) one of the advisors of terrorist Menahem Begin. This is in addition to the daily war against the heroic struggler masses of our Palestinian people which are under occupation. This fascist repression will only make our masses more determined to face the challenge.

In the face of all this, and in order to the confront this treaty, the Palestinian revolution calls on the Arab nation to firmly stand against these impending dangers. It also calls upon the Arab states to repudiate their differences for the sake of defending their dignity, existence, security and future generations.

While calling for confronting this dangerous alliance, the Palestinian revolution, led by the PLO, believes that it is essential to consolidate friendship with all friendly states, the nonaligned states and the socialist bloc countries headed by the USSR. For it is confirmed daily that these states support the struggle of our people and the ambitions of our nation.

While reiterating that the Arab nation faces a serious situation, which has been further aggravated and complicated by this U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, the PLO believes that this nation has many weapons which it can use in defense of its existence and the freedom and rights of its peoples, especially the central issue -- the Palestine question.

Finally, this U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance reasserts that the United States is a major force in the trench of the enemies of the Palestinian people, the Arab nation, the Palestinian revolution and the Arab liberation forces.

KUWAITAL-ANBA' CONDEMNS OMANI COOPERATION WITH U.S.

GFO31740 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 2 Dec 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Don't Resist the Bear With a Wolf"]

[Text] No sooner had the "Bright Star 82" maneuvers faded away in the Egyptian desert than their transfer to the Sultanate of Oman was announced. Some naval units have started heading toward this Arab Gulf state in anticipation of the conclusion of preparations for the maneuvers that will, apart from the United States, be attended by Britain and France.

If the sovereignty of any state gives it the right to draft its strategy and to envisage what is in its national interests, this can never stop us from speaking the truth in this regard, especially since this state is bound to us by the oneness of Gulf destiny and through the Sultanate's membership in the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. If the member states of this council, prior to its establishment, had the right to embark on whatever they deemed suitable in the fields of military, economic and political policies, after the establishment of the council, this is governed by factors decided upon by the GCC in terms of mode, merit and context.

The relationship between the Sultanate and the United States and the facilities offered to the U.S. forces are no longer a secret hidden by either of the two sides. Thus, discussing the political attitude that led to granting these facilities stems from knowledge, not from guesswork or prediction. Hence, we can say that the Sultanate of Oman is committing a grave mistake not on behalf of its sovereignty and the freedom of its political decision-making alone, but also on behalf of the entire Arabian Gulf's right and its current and long term strategic interests. If we agree with the Sultanate in denouncing the unilateral act of any Gulf or Arabian Peninsula state, especially the PDRY, with regard to what has been said of its offering military facilities to the Soviet Union and of its dependence on Soviet experts, this same stand is taken with regard to any similar act undertaken by any of our Arab countries, especially when that country is a GCC member.

We strongly condemn, without accepting any justification, military agreements through which a council member binds itself to any foreign power. It is not permissible to remain silent while the wolf is being dragged off to face the bear. History and commonsense have taught us and national sovereignty forces us to realize that when the weak pledges his destiny to the will of the strong he is actually placing himself in the mouth of the lion or under his claws.

History teaches us that it is wrong to gain the world only to lose oneself, because this means everything is lost. History also teaches us that the continuity of states or regimes is not guaranteed by the umbrella of foreign protection that does not care who goes or remains as much as it is concerned about its interests. Plentiful are the examples of those U.S. friends who had to pay their countries' independence and freedom as a price for the conflict of hegemony or for the deal of settling accounts among the superpowers. We are being pulled to such circumstances by the Bright Star maneuvers. There can be no brightness unless fire is lit and none will fall victim except this Arabian Gulf.

OMANPDRY STATEMENT ON HELICOPTER LANDINGS DENIED

EA031534 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry has made the following statement:

REUTER has reported that the Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] in Beirut yesterday issued a statement in which it claimed that Omani forces had landed some helicopters in the (Wadi Haybal)-(Wadi Sa'idah) area in order to expel the citizens as the statement claimed, from these areas.

The Sultanate of Oman refutes these claims which are without foundation. They were intended to mislead public opinion within their general aim of creating an atmosphere of tension and instability in the area.

The Sultanate of Oman maintains its resolute policy against any aggression on its territories. At the same time it is striving to create favorable political conditions for the success of the role of mediation being offered by the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council with a view to ending the policy of hostility being pursued by the Government of the PDRY against its neighbors.

PDRY

OMAN ACCUSED OF TERRITORIAL VIOLATIONS

JN031807 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1735 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Beirut, 3 Dec (SANA) -- In a statement issued by the PDRY Embassy in Beirut and published in Lebanese newspapers today, the PDRY accused the Sultanate of Oman of violating PDRY territory during the past few days.

In this statement, the PDRY said that it reserves the right to defend itself. It added that the Sultanate of Oman has sent troops in a helicopter to the (Wadi Dibin) and (Wadi Sa'idah) regions on the border with Oman in an attempt to expel the PDRY citizens residing in these two regions.

The statement indicated that this aggression comes at a time when the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force is preparing for maneuvers near the PDRY's eastern border. The statement added that the PDRY is always concerned for the region's security and wants to prevent giving the United States a pretext to interfere in the region's affairs on a larger scale.

It is to be noted that the Bright Star maneuvers will take place in Oman on the 6th and 7th of this month.

YAR'S SALIH CONCLUDES VISIT, RETURNS HOME

JN022108 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, arrived in Ta'izz at 2115 today accompanied by his delegation after a fraternal visit to the southern part of the homeland that lasted for 3 days, during which he held talks with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, and senior officials there. He also took part in our people's celebrations of the 14th independence anniversary.

In a predeparture statement in Aden, President Salih said: It is difficult to find words to express my profound happiness in the successful fraternal visit which I paid to the southern part of the homeland. It is very difficult for me to express the emotions which overwhelmed me during my stay in my homeland and for my brother officials, headed by President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, for their warm reception and hospitality which express the genuine nature of our people and their pure cultural traits.

The president indicated that the atmosphere of love and kindness in which we met in Aden and Hadramawt had been of great help to us in reaching important and positive results which we consider a constructive phase in the history of our Yemeni nation and an advanced step on the road to restoring Yemeni unity. It has also crowned the march of unity with a new triumph that will grant our people the elements of strength and power, enable them to live in security, peace and stability and give the Yemeni homeland the necessary fortifications in order to confront all the irresponsible actions aimed at the cultural progress, development and national sovereignty of both parts of Yemen.

Concluding his statement, Salih said: I am sure that if we implement what we have agreed upon, we will achieve one of the most important pillars on which Yemeni unity will be built.

YAR-PDRY Agreement

JN031616 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Dec 81

["Text" of agreement signed in Aden on 2 December by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council 'Ali Nasir Muhammad]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The agreement for developing cooperation and coordination between the two parts of Yemen:

Proceeding from the spirit of brotherhood and cooperation between the two political leaderships in the two parts of Yemen, based on the unity agreements signed between them and with the aim of expanding the horizon of cooperation and coordination between the two parts in all domains toward achieving the supreme interest of the Yemeni people in reunifying Yemen -- land and people -- the leaders of the two parts of Yemen agreed at their meeting held in Aden from 30 November to 2 December 1981 to carry out the following steps:

First: Regarding coordination between the two leaderships:

1. A council for the two leaders of the Yemeni parts shall be formed and shall be called the Yemeni Council.

2. The Yemeni Council shall exercise the following jurisdictions:

- A. To follow up the implementation of the unity agreements between the two parts of the homeland and to supervise the work of the unity committees.
- B. To take cognizance of the agreement reached by the unity committees and of what is to be submitted by these committees with regard to the outcome of their work, to approve that and to issue the adequate instructions and recommendations to implementing what has been ratified.
- C. To issue instructions and directives to the officials who are concerned with the implementation of the joint projects that are agreed upon.
- D. To take cognizance of the reports of the secretariat which is concerned with the progress of implementing the unity steps and of the difficulties encountering them. Also to take cognizance of the issues of coordination and joint projects and to issue instructions and directives which are bound to eliminate the difficulties and provide all facilities and necessary capabilities to achieve and implement all that is agreed upon and that which will be agreed upon in all fields.
- E. To review all internal and external issues that concern the two parts and to agree on all that should be taken of measures regarding these issues.
- F. To form a Secretariat for the Yemeni Council with an office in San'a' and another in Aden affiliated to it.

3. The statute of the Yemeni Council:

- A. The council shall meet once every 6 months. The council is empowered to meet whenever the need arises.
- B. The council's meetings shall be held in the Yemeni capitals alternately or in any other agreed-upon place in Yemen.

4. To form a joint ministerial committee of the two parts. The committee shall be made up of:

- A. The two prime ministers or those representing them;
- B. The two foreign ministers;
- C. The two interior ministers;
- D. The two ministers of supply and planning;
- E. The two ministers of education;
- F. The two chiefs of the armed forces general staff;

5. The Joint Ministerial Committee shall exercise the following jurisdictions:

- A. To supervise the implementation of the joint projects contained in the agreements signed between the two parts.
- B. To guarantee coordination between the economic and social development plans in the two parts.
- C. To submit studies and compile reports and proposals to the Yemeni council with the aim of supporting the unity steps and achieve the economic integration between the two parts.
- D. To execute every task entrusted to it by the Yemeni Council.
- E. To supervise the implementation of the 13 July 1980 agreement signed by the two presidents.

6. The statute of the Joint Ministerial Committee:

- A. The Joint Ministerial Committee shall meet every 3 months. The committee can meet whenever need arises.
- B. The committee shall be chaired alternately.
- C. The committee's meetings shall be held in the capitals of the two parts alternately.
- D. The Secretariat of the Yemeni Council shall also function as the Secretariat of the Joint Ministerial Committee.

7. The Secretariat shall be formed of six persons to be appointed from the two parts of Yemen and shall exercise the following jurisdictions:

- A. To prepare for the meetings of the Yemeni Council and the Joint Ministerial Committee.
- B. To record the minutes of the Yemeni Council and the Joint Ministerial Committee, keep these two bodies' documents and inform the concerned parties of their decisions.
- C. To undertake all work pertaining to coordination between the Yemeni Council, the unity committees and the competent parties in the two parts.
- D. To undertake any other tasks entrusted to it by the Yemeni Council.

Second: On the economic level:

1. To coordinate between the economic and social development plans in the two parts.

2. To prepare joint maps in the geological and water fields and to undertake search and prospection for all sources of minerals and water in the two parts' neighboring areas so as to be utilized by joint bodies in the two parts.

3. To establish a joint body to study the economic feasibility of the joint agricultural and industrial projects between the two parts.

4. To study water resources and draw up economic studies to make use of some of the agricultural valleys which join the two parts.
5. To unify the research and experimental programs in the two parts' specialized agricultural stations.
6. To unify the departments and methods of the two parts' agricultural guidance.
7. To study the possibility of establishing a joint body to market the agricultural products in the two parts.
8. To continue the implementation of Al-Wahdah-ibb-Qa'tabah-Husayn Road.
9. To study the implementation of other roads linking the two parts of the homeland.
10. To build joint dispensaries on the border to serve the neighboring villages. These dispensaries' sites will be fixed by a competent committee from the two parts.
11. To draw up a joint plan to eradicate epidemics, fight endemic diseases and unify efforts and exchange expertise on primary health care.

Third: On the educational, cultural and information level:

1. To build joint schools in the border area.
2. To allow the two parts' students to joint schools near their residence whether these schools are located in the north or south.
3. To entrust the cultural, educational and information committee with the task of coordinating with the two parts' Ministries of Education so as to unify the curricula and formulate common terminology on social subjects.
4. To make arrangements and adopt practical measures to create some sort of specialization and coordination in the process of developing higher and technical education. Meetings shall be intensified and experiences shall be exchanged in this field.
5. To entrust the two parts' information media with the task of preparing joint radio and television programs to be broadcast simultaneously in San'a' and Aden. These programs shall deal with the historical bases of Yemeni unity as well as the joint agreements and projects. They shall also acquaint people with the people's heroic, historical and militant stands against the imamate and colonialist rule and shall explain the Yemeni traditions and popular arts. In addition, they shall acquaint the citizens with their Yemeni homeland.

Fourth: Regarding movement between the two parts of the homeland:

1. Every citizen of the two parts shall have the right to travel from one part to another with an ordinary identity card in accordance with the conditions and controls cited in the agreement signed between the two parts' interior ministers on 12 June 1980.

Fifth: Regarding foreign policy:

On the Arab level:

1. To unify the two parts' stand in both trend and practice toward the principal Arab issue of Palestine through financial and material aid and support for the Palestinian people's struggle for self-determination, the establishment of their national independent state on their soil under the leadership of the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, and their right to repatriation.

2. To continue work in order to foil the treasonous Camp David agreements and all the projects aimed at liquidating or containing the Palestinian cause, and to reject all the projects which grants certain parties the right to negotiate instead of the Palestinian people.

3. To adopt a unified stand aimed at bolstering Lebanon's unity and Arabism and foiling the projects to divide Lebanon into sectarian entities linked with Zionism.

4. To support the states confronting the Zionist enemy headed by Syria and to coordinate between the two parts of Yemen in matters concerning purifying atmospheres among the Arab states so as to create Arab solidarity against imperialism and Zionism, and a cohesive Arab front that is able to restore Arab rights and confront imperialist and Zionist plots and the hostile designs aimed at imposing hegemony on peoples and on their rights to freedom, independence and social and economic progress.

5. To stand against the policy of planting foreign military bases that are hostile to our peoples in the region, to reject all forms of hostile foreign military presence in the region and to support the efforts and initiatives aimed at transforming the region into an area of peace, security and stability including the initiative of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad which was proposed at the Islamic summit conference concerning the holding of a summit conference for the states of the Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula, the Horn of Africa and the concerned parties so as to liquidate the foreign bases in the region, and also the Soviet initiative concerning the Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

6. To support all the sincere efforts to achieve Arab solidarity against Zionism and imperialism.

7. To take political, diplomatic and economic measures against the United States and any other state that contributes directly or indirectly toward supporting the Zionist entity morally or materially, or takes a hostile stance against the Arab nation and its right to sovereignty and independence.

8. To stand against all the political, military or security alliances that are linked to colonialism and neocolonialism in all its forms -- alliances that would lead to foreign penetration and intervention in the internal affairs and to the encroachment on national policy and aims.

9. To establish joint coordination with regard to (?unconditional) Arab aid and to include the state and private Arab funds in financing economic development in Yemen in accordance with the Yemeni laws of investment.

10. To establish normal relations with all the Arab states on the principles of mutual respect, respect for national sovereignty and the nonintervention in internal affairs.

11. To establish joint coordination with the aim of unifying the political stands in Arab and international conferences and forums.

On the international level:

1. To support the policy of international detente and peaceful co-existence and to oppose the imperialist policy that is aimed at escalating the arms race, undermining international detente, increasing tension in various parts of the world and eliminating the gains accrued from the peaceful coexistence.

2. To support the struggle of peoples fighting for freedom, independent social progress and the right to utilize their wealth and to oppose Zionism, racism and fascism.

3. To discriminate between enemies and friends on the basis of their positions on our national Yemeni, Arab and international causes and to strengthen the relations of the two parts of Yemen with all the states that firmly stand at the side of the struggle of our Yemeni people for realizing progress, at the side of our Arab causes -- particularly the Palestinian cause -- and at the side of the struggle of peoples that aspire for emancipation and progress.

4. To support the Nonaligned Movement as a positive factor in international relations, a great contributor toward realizing world peace and security and an important instrument in supporting struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism

[Signed] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces in the northern part of the homeland?

[Signed] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland

Issued in Aden on 2 December 1981.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR FRANCE WITH MESSAGE

EA031900 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Summary] Foreign Minister Salim Muhammad left Aden this morning for France at the head of a delegation which includes Industry Minister 'Abd al-Wadir ba Jammal, on an official visit of several days. He will deliver a written message from Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to President Mitterrand.

In his statement to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY before his departure he said: "We expect France, under the socialist government and with the good Franco-Arab relations and the French interest in the region, to play a more positive role in the progress of the struggle of the Arab peoples against the conspiratorial aggressive designs represented by the aggressive acts which threaten sovereignty, national independence and the Arab peoples, and to stand alongside the just Arab causes headed by the cause of the Palestinian people and their just struggle for their right to return to self-determination and to build their independent national state under the leadership of the PLO."

'ALI NASIR DELIVERS SPEECH AT WRITERS CONFERENCE

LD011544 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Speech by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers, at 29 November closing session of the 13th conference of Arab writers in Khawr Maksar -- live]

[Excerpts] Brothers, sisters, masses of our great Yemeni people: At this great moment, we are pleased to inaugurate the celebrations marking the 14th anniversary of national independence which culminated in the popular armed uprising of 14 October under the leadership of the National Front.

The revolution succeeded in destroying all the sultanates, emirates and shaykhdoms set up by British colonialism and uniting them within the real [word indistinct] toilers, as a first step toward Yemeni unity, the great goal of our Yemeni people.
[applause]

Since independence, and until now, we have made great and continuous efforts to attain that great goal for which our people and their revolutionary movement have been struggling.

In spite of all the difficulties linked to [word indistinct] of fragmentation and in addition to external reactionary conspiracies, we have eagerly and determinedly continued the march to create the basic precedents for the reunification of the homeland on a peaceful and democratic basis.

We have strived, in cooperation with our brothers in the northern part of the homeland, to provide the appropriate conditions for this through dialogues, contacts and visits to the northern part of the homeland, as well as exchange visits between officials of the two parts, including the visit to be paid by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Aden tomorrow. [applause]

The sincere unification efforts will become stronger and stronger as they rely on dialogue and fraternal and peaceful contacts, regardless of the difficulties and obstructions we face and the intrigues and malice of the forces hostile to our Yemeni people. Certain victory will be achieved in the cause of Yemeni unity, as a national cause of destiny, which cannot ever be erased.

There are those who believe that their own security and stability cannot exist except through instability in Yemen. These people must know that we have become aware of their wicked aims. We shall not permit anyone to deepen our wounds, because we believe stability in Yemen means stability for the region and stability for the Peninsula and the Arab Gulf. Everybody must understand this fact.

We declare most vigorously our resolute and firm stand against all the treasonous acts being perpetrated by the reactionary regimes in Egypt, Oman, Somalia and Sudan, which have turned the territories of these countries into a scene for aggressive American maneuvers. Our country declares its stand and its support for the struggle of the heroic people of Oman and the peoples of Somalia, Egypt and Sudan, to eliminate the American military bases from their territories.

We are confident victory will be the reward for our peoples' struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Our country has always stood against all the treasonous policies which collude with the common Zionist imperialist enemy. It has also demanded the purging of our Arab territories from American military bases and called for the pursuance of a resolute pan-Arab policy to liberate us from the aggressive dangers which threaten our Arab peoples, and to keep us away from all capitulatory negotiations and solutions which cause considerable harm to the unity of the Arab ranks and our legitimate national causes and rights, headed by the right of the Palestinian Arab people -- led by the PLO -- to return to their homeland and build their independent state.

In this respect, our country strove with sincere and persistent efforts to achieve security and stability in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf region. We called for holding a summit conference of states in the region aimed at eliminating these imperialist bases. We were also bent on reinforcing our brotherly relations and agreements with these states. At all the meetings and visits we have had recently with the states of the region -- the latest being our visits to Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar -- we sought to exchange views in order to ensure peace and stability in the region.

Our country has previously stressed the need to halt the Iraq-Iran war because it does not serve the interests of the two neighboring brotherly peoples, since its continuance will greatly harm security and peace in our region.

The friendship and cooperation treaty between our country, Libya and Ethiopia, has added new strength to the struggle against imperialism and Zionism and their conspiratorial designs, headed by Camp David. This treaty also represents a means of consolidating militant relations among the progressive Arab and African forces.

Here, I would like to point out that our country has followed with great concern the situation in Chad. It supported the legitimate nationalist government and condemned the civil war. In this respect, while we hail the Jamahiriyyah's decision to withdraw its forces from Chad, we stress the need for noninterference in the affairs of Chad by reactionary states.

We also stress the importance of giving the Saharan people, led by the Polisario Front, their right to self-determination in accordance with the OAU resolutions taken in Nairobi.

Our activities on the Arab level have concurred with the tendencies of our foreign political activities on the international level. This is in accordance with the resolutions of the extraordinary general congress of our Yemeni Socialist Party. The recent period has seen extensive political activity, principally aimed at consolidating and expanding the scope of relations of friendship and cooperation between our country and all the countries of the socialist camp, led by the Soviet Union, and all freedom, progress and peace-loving forces in the world.

Our visits to a number of socialist countries and meetings with socialist leaders who visited our country, have contributed to reinforcing the bonds of militant alliance and joint efforts to strengthen the struggle against imperialism and to safeguard world peace.

We are determined to pursue solidarity with socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, because for us and our Arab peoples this constitutes a source of strength for the Yemeni revolution and the Arab national liberation movement in general. [Words indistinct] this course will be further strengthened thanks to the unity of principles and common aims for which our country is struggling, side-by-side with the forces of progress and socialism in the world. [applause]

Our country will continue its solidarity with the socialist Republic of Cuba and the revolutionary forces and the peoples struggling against colonialism, racism and fascism in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Brothers, 14 years of national independence is a struggle rich in sacrifice and creativity. It is an extension of our people's struggle in the past, the last 14 years of which will undoubtedly constitute -- through its victories and successes -- a new basis for strengthening the march toward completing the tasks of the democratic national revolution and achieving the total aims of the Yemeni revolution.

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER DENIES \$1.2 BILLION OFFER TO OMAN

LD031214 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has categorically and emphatically denied a report published by the Washington POST 2 days ago that an offer of \$1.2 billion was made to the Sultanate of Oman by the Kingdom and the Gulf states in return for not offering military facilities on its territories to forces foreign to the region. He said such reports were untrue and were mere fabrication which sought to harm the Kingdom in particular and the Gulf in general. They also sought to harm fraternal relations between these countries and to represent these relations in a manner which differs from the truth.

The information minister stressed that relations between the Kingdom and the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council are sincere fraternal relations based on mutual respect and complete mutual understanding, and also on common interests and the unity of fate and aim. Such relations, which might not be understood by the Western world, do not allow such an offer to be made or even considered.

He pointed out that publishing such false reports is part of a biased campaign which the Western information media has recently renewed against the Kingdom. We have become accustomed to such endless fabrications of whose repetition they do not tire and which show that we are always in the thoughts of our enemies.

AL-MADINAH EDITORIAL ASSAILS IRANIAN REGIME

GF031511 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 29 Nov 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Iranian Rulers, Eat Your Hearts Out!"]

[Text] The sanguine regime ruling Iran is suffering from moral relapses one after another. Every day, more of the regime's so-called supporters fall away. Every day, evidence of chaos and disorder increases while the regime claims control over the security situation in the country. Every day, the regime's supporters fall dead as punishment for the obnoxious murders they perpetrate against both their innocent fellow citizens and their opponents.

Amid this dilemma in which the ruling regime flounders, the Iranian officials fumble about trying to find some kind of justification for what is taking place in their country. Despite the fact that the Iranian regime is fond of reiterating "the shortcomings of the former shah's regime," it suffers from an abstruse quandary of justifying the current situation, which is much worse than that of the shah's era. Iran has never witnessed such a bleak sanguine period of time. Iranians are falling dead in daylight in the endless conflict.

A regime that offered freedom has placed more chains and shackles around the necks of the people already under the yoke of servitude. A regime that brought the good tidings that it would apply the canon law of Islam has ended up reviving the laws of Mazdaism and is ruling by the law of the jungle. A regime that came to power on the promise of reformation has turned Iran into "utter destruction." It came on the plea of protecting its subjects but staged a massacre.

A regime that promised to break its subjects' chains has augmented the worries the Iranians had "during the shah's reign" and brought more dangerous worries to them.

A regime that refuses to make peace with its neighbors who have accepted the mediation of the entire Islamic world and international public opinion denies peace to those who have willingly chosen it.

A regime like the Iranian regime, which has exceeded the boundaries of its country to talk today about what the Islamic and international peoples should do with their governments, does not inquire whether the killing it commits against its subjects is being carried out by the will of its people (!!!)

A regime like the one with which the Iranian people are afflicted, fumbling in chaos and perdition, seeks justification from the ruling clique for the painful incidents taking place in the country.

The regime's repeated explanation is that the whole world is against the Islamic revolution of Iran (!) because this revolution is dangerous to the entire world (!!), imperialism and colonialism, and also a threat to the governments which manage the affairs of "the oppressed in their countries."

Anyway, the people must see for themselves how insipient the ruling clique of Iran is, this clique that believes the entire world is wrong and that it alone is right!!

We Muslims ask the Iranian rulers, and foremost of them their guide "Ayatollah Khomeyni," whether it has been revealed to them alone of all the Muslim ulema of the entire Islamic world that they are permitted to pass these arrogant, reckless and feeble decisions that involve no other sage, scholar or righteous person but him. [presumably Khomeyni]

Such Iranian stances that arouse "the indignation of the entire Islamic world" will prolong the painful ordeal from which the courageous Muslim Iranian people, who resent bloodshed, unlawful killing, and bold and gallant struggles, are suffering.

The dire failure of the corrupt Iranian regime and the confusion that plagues the hypocritical Iranian rulers make them seek an excuse for their inefficiency, stagnancy and bewilderment in ruling their country.

Currently the Iranian rulers are launching a drive as ferocious as the drive of "Begin, the terrorist" against the Saudi peace plan. Both Iran and Begin hope this plan will founder on the Arab, Islamic and international levels. Both the regime of the "ayatollahs of corruption" and the Israeli entity defend a common interest -- the continuation of chaos and instability of the Arab world -- so that the powers that activate and motivate these two regimes are able to secure their interests by preventing the Arab world from developing and prospering and by throwing it into the whirlwind of problems.

The Iranian assailing of the Saudi peace plan has been given priority. Iran describes the plan that the Palestinians, the Arab majority and the entire world have accepted, as "the sources of all catastrophe," exactly the same way the Iranian regime describes the whole world as "the source of all catastrophe" and just as it insists the world is explicitly and implicitly allied against the Iranian revolution.

Notwithstanding this, Saudi Arabia achieved a landslide success by presenting the plan that would win international unanimity. The Fes summit affirmed the plan's significance by considering it the principal issue for the upcoming summit after giving a chance to the leaders who did not attend the Fes summit to adopt a clear stance on the plan.

Finally, the spiteful Iranians who have a grudge against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have nothing left except to eat their hearts out and die by the bullets of their people on the day of reckoning.

MUBARAK, NUMAYRI SURPRISE MEETING IN ASWAN 3 DEC

NC031610 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] In Aswan this morning President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. During this surprise visit the two presidents held a 3-hour session of talks which included a working luncheon.

The two presidents held a press conference after the talks in which they replied to questions posed to them by newsmen and information media correspondents.

President Husni Mubarak began the press conference, saying: All I can say on this occasion is that President Numayri had agreed to meet with me after his trip to the United States for consultations on the Arab positions, particularly after what, regrettably, had happened at the Fes conference and the many Arab disputes, not only with Egypt but in the whole Arab world. We agreed to meet for consultations in the light of the strong relations that exist between Egypt and Sudan.

President Mubarak added: We held a long session of talks in this regard which dealt with the Arab positions. Because there are continuous changes not only in the Arab positions but also in the whole world, it was necessary for us to agree on a minimum line so that there will be a unified concept for Sudan and Egypt in this sphere.

Asked what the Arab states should do in view of the suspension of the propaganda campaigns, President Mubarak said: When we decided to stop all propaganda campaigns against the Arab states or any others, we never thought of asking them not to attack us. We make our decisions from our position and we leave it to the Arab states to make the decision they want to make. We have our principles and values and base our decisions and positions on these principles and values. Whether a state attacks us or not, this is up to them. Some of our Arab brothers are still attacking us, but we shall not reply to any attack at all.

Asked whether he was optimistic about the establishment of Arab solidarity in the future between Egypt and the Arab states, President Mubarak said: I cannot say that it is optimism, but it is a question why this should not take place among a group which have a common language, religion, character, environment and many other factors. He said: Egypt opens its arms to any Arab, and we have no complexes or sensitivities. I have reached an understanding with President Numayri on this.

President Mubarak said: We have many domestic problems before us. It is necessary to unite our ranks and pay attention to our economic problems, because we want to raise the standard of our people. As for the Arab issues, they come at the appropriate time.

Asked about his task in Aswan and his meeting with President Mubarak, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri said: It is a quick visit for talks with President Mubarak, especially when positions change. Positions are changing quickly these days in the Arab world and in the whole world. This requires the exchanging of views and the drawing up of a plan for action, as long as we are brothers working along the same line and for the same aim. For this reason we agreed to come here to Aswan for consultations on many positions which have changed since my last meeting with brother Husni Mubarak before my visit to the United States.

President Numayri said: We think that this visit is important in all respects.

Asked whether there are new Arab moves he is undertaking or whether he is carrying a certain viewpoint or whether he is undertaking any form of mediation, President Numayri said:

We are trying to unite the Arab brothers as a single rank for peace and for joint action, particularly with Egypt. My call [for Arab solidarity with Egypt] is still valid. I do not like my visit to Aswan to be interpreted as a mediation effort.

He said that Egypt's policy is clear. Egypt has said and President Mubarak has said in his recent speeches that Egypt is Egypt, and it pleases us to cooperate with every Arab state that extends a hand of cooperation. Egypt's door is open and all of us are aware that the Egyptian people's cooperation with all the Arab governments is continuing and that there are no differences except in views. We say: Does what happened in the Camp David conference lead to a solution -- the solution of the fateful Arab issue -- or not? Egypt explained this and said that that does not lead to a radical solution but is a prelude to peace. Egypt worked and proved that it is possible for this road to open the way [for the resolution of] the whole fateful issue if the Arab states proceed along the same road. I wish from the bottom of my heart -- and this is one of my and Sudan's principles -- that the Arabs would join hands and resolve their issues peacefully and logically, which is the best solution so far.

He said: All of us are aware that a Saudi plan was presented at the Fes conference a few days ago. Before the debate on the plan began, there was disagreement of views.

President Numayri said that he was pained by the result reached by the conference. He expressed the hope that the Arabs would find a way out by drawing up a plan for peace that would conform with what Egypt has done -- making the Arabs influential politically, economically and militarily. The Arabs could be a third force and not the fifth or sixth force [in the world] -- that is, if a consensus is achieved and good intentions prevail.

President Numayri said: We must realize that many Arab states are sincerely working for peace, but they do not wish to manifest this openly. I do not know why. There are other states which work at dividing the Arab states and work plainly without allegiance to the Arab world and the Arab nation. I can say that the Fes conference failed because of these states, foremost Libya and Syria and some other states which do not wish to appear clearly in the picture for either tactical or strategic reasons.

Asked if the peace plan which was presented to Fes conference was discussed with President Husni Mubarak, President Numayri said: Yes. It was one of the things which have changed the Arab stands recently.

President Numayri emphasized that there was such a great disagreement among the Arab states that it affects the Arabs and the Arab world. He said: It was necessary to discuss this matter with President Mubarak.

Asked how he visualizes the coming phase, President Numayri said: I cannot say that there is a detailed plan, but there is an agreement with brother Mubarak that we work for Arab solidarity so that there will be logical stands leading to peace.

Asked if there has been a conciliation with Chad, president Numayri said: We discussed this matter. Upon my return to Khartoum I will meet with a delegation sent by Goukouni Oueddei. This delegation will afterward meet with President Mubarak in Egypt. He is aware of this. We have agreed to work for peace in Chad and not to give a chance to all the states which seek sabotage in Chad.

Troops Hold Exercises

NC040626 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Joint military exercises between Egyptian and Sudanese forces began in an area west of Khartoum yesterday.

Sudanese military sources have stated that the exercises will last 5 days. From 600 to 800 soldiers are participating in these exercises, in addition to paratrooper units from the two armies. These exercises have nothing to do with the situation in Chad.

It should be recalled that the carrying out of these exercises was agreed upon during the meeting of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese military command in September.

AUTONOMY TALKS TO RESUME IN ISRAEL 10-17 DEC

NC040925 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Dec (MENA) -- It has been decided that the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. technical working committees' new round of discussions on autonomy will be held in Israel from 10 to 17 December.

During this round of discussions, the preparation of a draft statement on the principles, powers and jurisdictions of self-government as well as on elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will continue in accordance with the directives given to these committees and adopted during the tripartite meeting held at the ministerial level in Mena House in Al-Jizah recently.

The Egyptian side in the working committees will be headed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Tahir Shash.

It is known that these working committees will continue to hold periodic meetings in both Israel and Egypt until they achieve a draft agreement and narrow the differences. They will then present the results of their meetings to the ministerial meeting which will convene when necessary.

AL-AHRAM COMMENTS ON EFFECT OF U.S.-ISRAEL PACT

NC040008 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2302 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 Dec (MENA) -- In a commentary in Friday's edition AL-AHRAM explains that the agreement on strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel marks the first time the United States has compelled Israel to align itself with the United States, following a long time in which Israel held a monopoly in inducing the United States to align itself with Israel.

The paper notes that it is yet unprecedented in Israel's history that the Knesset has been split so acutely, almost equally, over a political document, as the Knesset has been split over the cooperation agreement.

The paper affirms that this agreement will draw considerable reaction and will bear various forms of impact on the currents of Israel policy and on the Israeli man in the street.

VEIL MENA INTERVIEW ON EC MIDEAST STANCE

NC032048 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2259 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 Dec (MENA) -- Mrs Simone Veil, president of European Parliament, arrived in Cairo tonight and expressed [words indistinct] and the European Common Market states in all domains.

In exclusive statements to MENA, Mrs Veil noted the development of the economic relations which continued between Egypt and the European Common market states in the past 5 years. She said that these relations have witnessed a major increase since 1976, particularly in the domain of Egyptian exports to the Common Market. She said: It is imperative to deepen the political relations between Egypt and the Common Market in the future.

She noted that the Common Market has expressed its hope several times that it will be able to participate in the peace efforts in the area, because the Common Market wants to help provide solutions for conflicts.

In her statements, Simone Veil spoke of the stance of the European Parliament toward the negotiations on the limitation of the medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe -- negotiations which are being held between the United States and the Soviet Union. She said that the European Parliament hopes that the two sides will achieve a limitation of weapons, that the presently deployed missiles will be dismantled and that no new missiles will be installed.

She explained that, in view of its strategic and geographic location between the two superpowers, Europe fears that it will be the target.

To a question about the role which Europe can possibly play in the achievement of a peaceful solution for the Middle East issue, Simone Veil said that Europe has always enjoyed special relations with Egypt. The reason is that the two sides belong to the same world; that is, the world of the Mediterranean basin. From this premise, a part of their two histories is the same and their method is the same. She added that for this reason, Europe has a special ability to understand Egypt's problems and to understand the problems of the Middle East.

She said: Solidarity between us goes to the extent that, in this quest for peace, it is incumbent on us to prove our good intentions and our ability to intervene to hold an extremely important dialogue among the peoples concerned in the area.

Mrs Simone Veil said: The stances of the European Common Market states toward the Camp David agreements have always been very positive. At the Venice summit, the Common Market states tried to derive the utmost benefits from these agreements for the purpose of establishing a comprehensive peace in the Middle East area. She added: I believe that, from this premise, it is possible to understand the position of the European Common Market in general.

Mrs Simone Veil pointed to Europe's participation in the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers. She expressed her hope that the two countries concerned, namely Egypt and Israel, will reach an agreement on the participation of the European Common Market states, or the participation of some of them, in the Sinai Multinational Forces and Observers.

She said: We hope that the European states, particularly those which want to contribute to the efforts deployed for peace in the Middle East, will find themselves in a position which will enable them to carry out these efforts.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBER TO GO ON TRIAL

PM011509 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Nov 81 p 1

[Excerpt] Cairo -- ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the first trial of the As-Sadat regime under the law will begin on 6 December when People's Assembly member millionaire Rashad 'Uthman, partner of the late president's brother Ismat as-Sadat, appears before the "values court" set up by As-Sadat himself after the ethics law was enacted.

Rashad 'Uthman will be questioned by the court about the size of his wealth, which reached 400 million pounds during As-Sadat's reign.

The Rashad 'Uthman case assumes significant political dimensions and reflects the phenomena of indiscipline, theft and bribery.

The trial will take place on the basis of a case built up by the public prosecutor's department against 'Uthman. 'Uthman's property has been placed in custody by a decision of the public prosecutor.

JOURNALIST HAYKAL INTERVIEWED BY OPPOSITION PAPER

PMO41019 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 30 Nov 81 p 3

[Sa'id 'Abd al-Khaliq interview with journalist Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal in Cairo: "In his first interview with an Egyptian paper, Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal says: The secret of my disagreement with the late president; I do not know why President as-Sadat accused me of atheism" -- date of interview not specified]

[Text] I met him in suite 827 in the Meridian Hotel where he has been staying for some time, having decided to make general changes and renovations in his apartment where he had discovered strange things. I asked him to speak to AL-AHRAR. He refused in the beginning, on the grounds that he had decided not to give interviews to Egyptian newspapers, but after some insistence he agreed.

What drew one's attention in his room was the swarm of people -- of a different kind. Scores of foreign press and agency correspondents as well as U.S. television correspondents were in the room to interview him. When I was in the room the television was showing a film on President Husni Mubarak's meeting with the released political detainees. When Haykal appeared on television shaking hands with the president, his wife Hidayat jumped from her seat and embraced him, not believing her eyes. Then his younger son Hasan did the same.

I spoke to Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, former chief editor of AL-AHRAM and former information minister. He is a friend of 75 percent of the world's kings and heads of state. He says that he does not know why this friendship should be turned into a charge against him. He has been the target of almost continuous attacks in recent years.

I have prepared scores of questions for this interview but he refused to commit himself to a certain number of questions, saying that he would give me half an hour because he wanted to have time for all his other interviews which, he noted with a smile, do not take more than 15 minutes.

I asked Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal: Do you intend to write in the Egyptian papers again?

[Answer] At present, no. I am quite detached from the Egyptian press game. Nobody has a right to consider me a party or a rival or anything of that sort.

I have played my part in the Egyptian press. I believe that I have done my share and I am satisfied with the way I did it. My articles and the part I played in AL-AHRAM at the time testify to what I can do. I believe I have played my part.

Under the circumstances I believe -- not only now, since I am one of those who do believe -- that no journalists can make his exit with a decision and return with another.

The decision appointing me chief editor of AL-AHRAM was signed by the Taqla family. When the press was organized in Egypt I asked President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir "not to change it," in other words not to issue a new decision appointing me chief editor of AL-AHRAM. When President 'Abd an-Nasir appointed me chairman of the AL-AHRAM board of directors I did not use the title. And it was never mentioned in AL-AHRAM. In my days AL-AHRAM presented me as Chief Editor Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, because this was the professional and natural title and had nothing to do with politics or any particular political view. I only used my professional title. So I am satisfied with my role as a journalist.

How do I see the Egyptian press today? May God grant those working in it success. I am not a party to this game. I am not a rival to anybody at all. I have played my part and I am satisfied with it.

[Question] Does your satisfaction with the part you played mean that you will refrain from writing?

[Answer] Not at all. I will not stop writing. I write for THE TIMES and THE SUNDAY TIMES. I sometimes write for the New York TIMES, and I have my books. I am an Egyptian journalist more than anything else. I have published several books in the international market. The latest was a book about the Iranian revolution. I write about one book every year and a half. I write these books in English and some are translated into other languages. The last book was translated into 26 languages including Arabic, most regrettably in Beirut. I saw the English edition of my book on the Iranian revolution after I left prison. It appeared in London on 12 November.

[Question] Would you accept any political position that might be offered to you?

[Answer] I am quite distant from the Egyptian press game under the present circumstances. As for Egyptian politics, I am very interested in what is happening. I pray God to grant President Husni Mubarak success, and I am at his disposal as a citizen.

President 'Abd an-Nasir began offering me ministerial posts in 1955. I was a young man at the time. I refused in 1955, in 1958 at the time of the union [with Syria] in 1961 after the secession, and in 1967 after the war. I was finally appointed minister in 1970 by an announcement on the radio. I did not hear the decision myself. As-Sadat called to tell me about it at my country home. He telephoned to congratulate me.

President 'Abd an-Nasir knew I would turn the appointment down so he issued the decision without telling me. So I accepted the decision as a fait accompli and was minister from April to 28 September 1970. On 3 October, the day after President 'Abd an-Nasir's funeral, I submitted a written resignation to President Anwar as-Sadat and I begged him to accept it. However, at his request and insistence I accepted the position of information minister so as to continue with him and supervise his election campaign.

After that I remained a friend of Anwar as-Sadat and continue to work as AL-AHRAM chief editor and to devote all my energies to him in order to serve the country. I was not doing it for myself or him as a person, but for the country. In my friendship with 'Abd an-Nasir and Anwar as-Sadat I tried to be useful to my country.

I never left Egypt despite the circumstances. Despite all the campaigns mounted against me I preferred to stay in Egypt because it is my country. I knew that I was in danger and some things did happen. I used to go abroad to finish my work and then return to Egypt. I was never absent from Egypt for more than 1 month at any one time. I did write abroad but I insisted that I would have no work, life or grave outside Egypt. I knew that there was danger. But this only made me stick more to this position. Had the socialist prosecutor contacted me when I was in Paris and told me that I was wanted for investigation, I would have come (Haykal came back to Egypt 4 days before his detention).

I refuse to live abroad in political asylum. My only loyalty is to my country. I live in Egypt, which means that I agree to live under Egyptian laws.

[Question] What is your opinion of the charges leveled against you, especially the charge that you are an atheist?

[Answer] President as-Sadat, may God have mercy on his soul, accused me of being an atheist. This is a very strange charge. He also said that I had admitted this to him, which is also very strange. I do not know how he could say that. Then he said that I was a friend of presidents. I do not know that this is a charge.

If I have international ties, I am proud of them. In fact I do know 75 percent of the world's politicians. I have used my relations with world politicians and with every world journalist to serve my country. If I am asked to do anything toward that end I will not hesitate to do it. This is not a crime in my opinion. The third charge is that I made a lot of money from my books. I am proud that I am one of those people who do not take money out of Egypt but rather bring money into it. If I have made money -- so be it, I have made some money -- I did so as a world journalist. I did not make the money in Egypt.

I worked as chief editor of AL-AHRAM, as chairman of the board of directors, as a press reporter and as a weekly column writer. All I was earning at AL-AHRAM was 252 pounds. You can check the AL-AHRAM files. I believe I was giving AL-AHRAM more than I was earning from it. I used to pay half of my income from my articles abroad to the fund for the university education of AL-AHRAM employees' children, which contributed to their clothing and so on. This was their right, not charity from me.

No journalist can reach the world except through his local base. The Egyptian reader is the one who has the most value abroad. Nobody else gets the credit for it. If I write abroad and the world accepts what I write, my local base here in Egypt is the only reason for it.

[Question] Did French President Francois Mitterrand offer you political asylum in France?

[Answer] It never happened. President Mitterrand is an old friend. I did not seek asylum and he did not offer it. This idea never occurred to me at all. I do not know where President as-Sadat got it from.

President Mitterrand was my guest in Egypt for 12 days. I mean that he was my guest in my capacity as chief editor of AL-AHRAM. It was I who took him and introduced him to President as-Sadat, and I attended their meeting. Every time I went to Paris I was received in audience by President Mitterrand.

In the recent period I did not sense danger. On the contrary, 3 weeks before I went to France I was in Switzerland, and there I met Henry Kissinger. Kissinger asked me: Are you in any danger in Egypt? I said no, not at all.

I also said to Kissinger: I think that President as-Sadat is too busy now to pay attention to me. It is true that for a while he did concentrate on me with continuous daily attacks. I do not know why.

[Question] This leads us to an important question. What was the reason for your disagreement with President as-Sadat?

[Answer] All that happened, in my opinion, was that I stuck to my views and that I was able to maintain my independence and make money. I told President as-Sadat more than 20 times: I am a professional journalist, not a mercenary journalist: a professional journalist, yes: a mercenary journalist, no.

I want nothing other than journalism. I said that I could write with the same ease in Egypt or abroad and that the whole world would publish what I write. Consequently, if I do not set an example to young journalists, who will, tell me who will? If I cannot as a matter of principle say: No, I am sorry, I am not satisfied with this policy and I will not follow it, who will? Should the young sacrifice? How can they?

[Question] Your relationship with President as-Sadat changed from close friendship to fierce antagonism. Why?

[Answer] President as-Sadat had offered me four positions. He offered me the posts of deputy prime minister, adviser for security affairs, chief of the presidential court and chief of the political office at the presidency. He also said to me: You can go back to journalism, provided that you commit yourself.

I answered: I do not know what to commit myself to, and I do not want to go back to journalism.

He himself even said that he offered me OCTOBER magazine. He did not reveal the other offers. The point is that I did not need to look for work to keep myself busy. I was busy writing the complete history of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's era. I was trying to get started on a part of it. I also had contracts to write three books, which I am doing now. It would have been all right if I could have completed my commitments. I am not looking for work. I have enough work. I work 12 hours a day and I do not want to work more than that.

[Question] What were the reasons for your disagreement?

[Answer] The reasons are clear. The disagreement dates back to the first disengagement [agreement with Israel]. That was the issue. I was of the opinion that the way Egypt emerged from the war would determine Egypt's economic, political, social and Arab course. This was our point of disagreement. I do not want to dwell on it again, but our disagreement did start there. Then, President as-Sadat told me: Leave AL-AHRAM, because your writings are causing confusion.

I accepted his opinion and did nothing else. Of course, I accepted his opinion, but where was I to go? It was a matter of work, and the next decision was mine and nobody had a right to interfere in it.

[Question] What is your opinion of what has been said about your 1972 articles about the legend of Israel the invincible, and the label of defeatism given by some to these articles?

[Answer] Go back to the first interrogation conducted with me by the socialist public prosecutor. I published all the minutes of the socialist prosecutor's sessions in a book. Very regrettably, these articles which were described as defeatist spoke about the Israeli plan which was actually used.

It was I who wrote the war decision. I told the socialist prosecutor that I was the man asked by President as-Sadat to write the war decision and strategic directive -- the decision he sent to Field Marshal Ahmad Isma'il 'Ali. How can you tell me that I wrote defeatist articles in 1972 and then in 1973 ask me to draft your declaration of war? If you place the so-called defeatist articles side by side with the strategic directive you will see that all my life I have advocated limited war. In the end, the Sinai war was an application of the theory of limited war.

[Question] How can the freedom of the press be guaranteed in a developing country like Egypt?

[Answer] The freedom of the press can only be achieved through the journalists -- through journalists who can understand the nature of the historical phase. No policy can be excluded from history. If the journalists understand the nature of the historical phase and know how to safeguard their freedom, then there will be freedom of the press. Most unfortunately, however, you cannot find freedom of the press in the present situation. I do not want to go into details. I have no quarrel with any journalist.

[Question] What do you have to say about those who have written against you throughout the past period?

[Answer] I have nothing to say at all. I do not reply to anything at all -- neither to those who wrote recently nor those who wrote before that. I will not answer anyone. I am not a party to any dialogue with any of these writers. I know my value and I know the value of others. That is enough for me.

We left suite 827 of the Meridian Hotel and left him to carry on with his interviews and press statements. He is now writing a book about his recent interrogation by the socialist public prosecutor.

OIL MINISTER SAYS OPEC MEMBERSHIP NOT DESIRED

NC040930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Dec (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister for Production Affairs and Petroleum Minister Eng 'Izz ad-Din Hilal has emphasized that Egypt does not wish to join OPEC because it does not want to be compelled to follow the example of other states in determining its oil policy.

In a statement published in the newspaper AL-AHRAM today, the minister said that Egypt's oil exports will yield \$3 billion this year --- about 10 times as much as its revenues from oil exports in 1976.

He said that Egypt will intensify its oil activities in the gulf of Suez and Sinai following the Israeli forces' complete withdrawal in April next year.

MUBARAK'S ECONOMIC, INTERNAL POLICIES VIEWED

PM021519 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Nov 81 p 1

["Political editor" report:]

[Text] AL-AHRAM's political editor has learned that President Husni Mubarak has requested that studies on Egypt's economic policy for the coming stage should be ready for discussion by mid-December. President Mubarak instructed a number of leading Egyptian economic experts to prepare papers defining a stable policy that would on the one hand preserve the progress Egypt has achieved in the economic field and on the other seek to break into new fields of progressive and unrestricted activities in which the Egyptian public and private sectors and Arab and foreign investors will participate.

President Mubarak had also charged a number of working groups of professors and experts to discuss specific subjects with a view to submitting recommendations regarding them at the same time. The subjects particularly concern the policy of subsidies and of ensuring that deserving people benefit from it in order to insure social justice and alleviate the burden of low-paid people.

The editor has learned that all these studies, in addition to those being prepared by government, the National Democratic Party [NDP], and the specialized national councils will be discussed at several meetings, some of which are to be presided over by President Husni Mubarak himself, preparatory to choosing the best policies and the best alternatives which are to be submitted for wide public discussion and discussion by the various political parties. This accords with the principles that all Egyptians must participate in and contribute to the formulation of national policies and decisions affecting their country's destiny.

AL-AHRAM's political correspondent has learned that there is no question of discussing any Cabinet or noncabinet changes at present so as to maintain the existing stability in Egypt. Large sectors [of the government] are functioning as well as can be, but should there be a need for a limited Cabinet reshuffle this will be done gradually, in the event that individual sector heads fail to achieve the desired targets in production or services. This accords with the principle that every change in the future must be based on a strategy and have specific objectives.

The political editor has learned that President Husni Mubarak has requested that every case involving corruption of any sort or deviation be referred to the attorney general or the socialist prosecutor in accordance with the provisions of the law, regardless of the position of the official involved, so that none of those who err or deviate will escape punishment.

REPORT ON OPPOSITION PARTY SUPPORT FOR MUBARAK

NC021825 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The weekly seminar of the Socialist Labor Party has affirmed its full support for President Mubarak and the fact that the opposition rallies around his leadership at this historic juncture. Al-'Azabi at-Tayyib at-Tahir sheds more light on this news report:

The seminar was nothing more than a manifestation of support for President Mubarak as a result of his historic decision. Under this decision, some politicians who had been under custody have been released. As those released have emphasized, this decision denotes the opening of a new page and the dawning of a new era.

Through the 4 hours that I followed the seminar, I am in a position to say that the politicians support his excellency the president. As one politician said, it became only too apparent prior to their release -- after they had heard his clear-cut and specific statements -- that these politicians affirm their adherence to the principled stances declared in his excellency the president's statements and declarations. [passage as heard]

At his meeting with the politicians following their release, the president surrounded the politicians with an atmosphere of friendship and of frankness concerning all national matters. He also asked them to offer assistance for the sake of Egypt.

Therefore, and as the released politicians who spoke at the seminar said, these politicians will present serious opinions through specialized studies in the matters raised by his excellency the president and in other matters.

The last speaker to address the seminar was Eng Ibrahim Shukri. He affirmed that in the new atmosphere, the Labor Party will seek to entrench and preserve the exercising of democracy, in addition to translating President Mubarak's slogans into actions and programs.

QUESTIONING OF 745 DETAINEES COMPLETED

NC021217 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (AFP) -- The attorney-general has completed the questioning of 745 out of 1,536 people detained last September 5 for "sedition", the semi-official daily newspaper AL-AHRAM reported today. Some of the 745 -- including moderate Muslim fundamentalists as well as Copt bishops and priests -- were expected to be released, like the first group of 31 freed last week. But 22 members of Egyptian leftist parties, and two of President Anwar as-Sadat's former ministers, will be questioned further for "participation in a Soviet plot".

Meanwhile, visiting permits have been granted to families of 217 detainees who are mainly in Turrah prison, about 25 kms (15 miles) south of the capital.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 541

JN031803 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Communique No 541 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 December 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Fight them, and God will punish them by your hands, cover them with shame, help you to victory over them, heal the breasts of believers [Koranic verse].

Armed with faith in God, principles and the homeland, the soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah continued to fight in defense of the right and dignity with high capability and confidence in definite victory over the rancorous Khomeyni clique. Our victories will continue every day and their defeats will intensify until they respect our sovereignty and recognize our legitimate rights. Following is the outcome of our forces' activities in the operational sectors:

I. Known enemy losses:

- A. Our victorious troops in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region are waging their ferocious battles for the 5th day running. Our troops are more determined to strike at the defeated enemy forces, inflicting on them grave losses in life and equipment. The known enemy losses which have been counted by the competent quarters when this communique was prepared in front of one of our main units during the days of 29 and 30 November and 1 and 2 December amount to 1,408 killed, a large number of wounded and captured and 48 tanks, 17 personnel carriers, 4 vehicles, 5 excavators and 1 gun. This is in addition to the losses stipulated in our communiques during the aforementioned days.
- B. Our units clashed with an enemy force in the Mimak area in front of their positions in Sayf Sa'd. Our units pounded the enemy force with various types of weapons, forcing it to retreat leaving behind 39 dead.
- C. An enemy concentration was sighted in front of our forward units in the Shush area. Our units pounded the concentration, killing 22 and destroying 1 tank and 1 armored personnel carrier.
- D. One of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Nowsud area, killing 13 and destroying 1 gun.
- E. Nine were killed in the Mehran area.
- F. Three were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
- G. Our brave eagles continued to deal fatal and direct blows to the retreating enemy forces and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations, inflicting large losses on its armored cars and personnel. Three enemy fighter planes were shot down in a dogfight and were seen exploding. All of our planes except for one, which fell on the enemy territory, returned safely to base. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of its pilot.
- H. Our helicopters launched daring raids on the enemy concentrations in the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and destroying 15 vehicles, 5 laden with hardware and guards of charlatan Khomeyni; 5 armored personnel carriers and 2 excavators. All of our helicopters except for one returned safely to base. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of its crew.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 1,494 dead, a large number of wounded and captured; 3 fighter planes downed; and 49 tanks, 23 armored personnel carriers, 19 vehicles, 7 excavators and 2 guns destroyed.

II. Our losses:

- A. In personnel: 67 martyrs in all sectors.
- B. In equipment: Sixteen tanks, 27 personnel carriers and 4 vehicles damaged, and 1 fighter plane and 1 helicopter downed.

KING HUSAYN CONFERS WITH PHILIP HABIB 3 DEC

JN031647 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Philip Habib, U.S. presidential envoy to the Middle East, at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. During the meeting, a review was made of the Middle East situation and the various aspects of the Lebanese problems. The meeting was attended by the U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Al-Qasim Confers With Habib

JN031820 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim today met with U.S. envoy Philip Habib. The two sides comprehensively reviewed the developments in the Middle East and Lebanon. They also exchanged views on the means to restore stability and security to fraternal Lebanon.

Al-Qasim stressed the importance of Arab action undertaken by the Arab Followup Committee for the sake of achieving national accord between the various Lebanese factions, considering this accord a basis for any serious effort aimed at preserving Lebanon's interests and enabling the Lebanese legitimate authority to exercise its constitutional duties while maintaining the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples' interests. Al-Qasim also stressed the importance of joint international efforts to prevent Israel from interfering in Lebanon's affairs and from continuously encroaching on its land, water and airspace by implementing the UN Security Council's resolutions in this respect.

The meeting was attended by the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

DAILIES ON U.S.-ISRAELI AGREEMENT, HABIB

JN040945 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Press review]

[Text] Today's press comments on and analyzes the current intensive political contacts in Amman, which demonstrate the world's appreciation of the Jordanian role in the region, particularly its role in any efforts to establish a just and lasting peace. It also comments on and analyzes the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement, which will increase Israel's arrogance and transform it into a policeman for the United States on the pretext of warding off an alleged Soviet threat, thus further jeopardizing peace and security in a region where Israel represents an element of aggravation.

Under the headline "The Important Facts of the Jordanian Role," AD-DUSTUR says: Coincidence has brought together in Amman U.S. envoy Philip Habib and Soviet ambassador-at-large Mikhail Sytenko. On the other hand, their visits to Jordan are not coincidental but a confirmation of the Jordanian role's importance in the region and in any international efforts to establish a just and lasting peace or in confronting any dangers and threats to the region.

AD-DUSTUR adds: The presence of the two superpowers' representatives in Amman confirms another important fact; the independence of Jordan's policy and dealings with everybody without any discrimination and free of axes or prejudice that rob whoever falls in their nets of his national and pan-Arab identity, paralyze his freedom of movement and action and impose upon him subservience and acceptance of whatever is decided for him even if it runs counter to his interests, objectives and aspirations.

Jordan's firm and frank stand and its pan-Arab commitment to its nation's issues, particularly the Palestinian issue, invest the Jordanian role with this importance, which no quarter can ignore or try to sidestep. They also invest Jordan's policy with independence and freedom of movement and dealing with everybody in accordance with the supreme pan-Arab interests and the stands of the various sides on the nation's interests and issues, particularly the Palestinian issue.

What the U.S. envoy heard from King Husayn and Jordanian officials concerning both Lebanon and the situation in the Middle East was Jordan's firm and consistent stand; the same was heard by the Soviet ambassador-at-large. Jordan is concerned with establishing just and comprehensive peace. However, it is more concerned with the Arab nation's future and is determined to defend its rights, particularly the Palestinian people's rights to which they have been long deprived due to Israel's aggression which still lurks on occupied Palestinian soil.

Our objection to the United States stems from its continuation of a policy prejudiced toward aggressive Israel. Moreover, it either does not want or is unable to balance its policy and exercise its power and influence as a superpower to force Israel to stop its aggression and withdraw from the occupied Arab territories to pave the way for an atmosphere amenable to the establishment of a just and comprehensive settlement, since partial settlements do not contribute to peace, security and stability but complicate matters, escalate tension and bring the situation closer to explosion.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Jordan assesses matters with a mature rationality that is committed to the Arab states' pan-Arab stand. It also assesses its relations with other states on the basis of their stands on our issues in general and the Palestinian issue in particular. Jordan will remain determined to achieve peace and more determined to uphold the Arab nation's future and dignity and Palestinian and other Arab rights.

Under the headline "New Obstacles on the Road to Peace and Stability," AR-RA'Y says: It is obvious that the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement adds a new obstacle to those already impeding the road to establishing peace and stability in the region.

The agreement will provide Israel with additional military means to the aid it has already received from the United States. The agreement will also establish Israel as a policeman in the area under the pretext of defending it from a Soviet threat. This means that the Israeli intransigence that constantly relies on force will increase with the additional power provided to it by the agreement, thus exposing the region to further dangers and instability. Moreover the agreement means reversing the essential truth in the area, namely that it is Israeli aggression that threatens the area. Furthermore, the agreement is a dangerous step that drags the area into the conflict between the two superpowers.

AR-RA'Y adds: The initial dimensions of this outcome should motivate the Arabs to rise to the challenges. They will be unable to do so unless they reunify their ranks, overcome useless sensitivities and proceed toward joint action.

This is what King Husayn stressed at the Fes summit, the Amman summit and at all Arab meetings and talks so that the Arabs will be able to build their intrinsic power and stay free of axes and any foreign umbrella. In so doing, they can uphold the freedom of Arab will and the ability to practice joint Arab action derived from this will.

KING HASAYN RECEIVES SOVIET ENVOY SYTENKO

JN031643 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received roving USSR ambassador Mikhail Sytenko at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. Current developments in the Middle East problem were reviewed in addition to its international aspects. The meeting was attended by the USSR ambassador in Amman.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE GAUGES FES, OTHER ISSUES

NC021950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The Lebanese position at the Fes summit conference, particularly on the situation in southern Lebanon, and the position which Lebanon should adopt at the UN Security Council meeting before 19 December on the occasion of the end of the UNIFIL term were today the subject of the meeting of the chamber of deputies' foreign affairs committee in Mansur Palace. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Committee Chairman Dr Amin al-Hafiz and in the presence of Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, Ministers Baydun and Al-Bazri and 18 deputies.

At the beginning of the meeting, Chairman al-Hafiz welcomed the foreign minister and began the debate on the subject of the strategic cooperation agreement which was signed by the Israeli defense minister and the U.S. secretary of defense, and effects of this cooperation on Lebanon and the area.

Chairman al-Hafiz then raised the subjects of the new tour which U.S. envoy Philip Habib has begun to Lebanon, the preparations the government is making for the meeting of the Arab Followup Committee next month, the summit conference in Fes and the Lebanese working paper which was approved by the foreign ministers conference prior to the summit conference.

Chairman al-Hafiz made some remarks about the Lebanese working paper, saying that the Fes summit resolution was a repetition of a previous resolution adopted at the Tunis summit conference in letter and spirit. He added that a distortion had taken place in the concept of joint Arab strategy. Although a call for the removal of the Israeli aggression and the direct and indirect occupation of the south and for the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty and authority was expected, the Lebanese official side abandoned this aim and contented itself with appealing for the maintenance of the status quo.

He said that the Lebanese Government's adoption of the cease-fire leads to recognition of the legitimacy of fighting on Lebanese territory and the legitimacy of the presence of illegal forces contesting the sovereignty of the legal authority.

He added: If the formation of the Arab minicommitttee were a serious matter and not for the sake of procrastination, it would be dangerous for the committee to draw up the executive details of the resolution. He said that the Palestinian and Lebanese issues are interlinked, and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty in the south is in the interest of the Lebanese issue.

He pointed out that the Lebanese interest and, subsequently, the Arab interest in Security Council Resolution 425 and the subsequent resolution are still weak.

After a discussion of the main topics, Minister Butrus said: Our departure point in Fes was not the Lebanese working paper only -- and the best testimony to this is that in the working paper we submitted, we mentioned our adherence to our previous stances. He added: Lebanon was expecting the following from the Fes conference:

1. To strive to prevent Israel from carrying out any new aggression.
2. A unified Arab strategy to be drawn up to face aggression.
3. That the Arabs would, in unison, exert pressure on the UN Security Council to implement Resolution 425 and its supplements and to ensure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territories.
4. That they would exert pressure on the United Nations to draw up a timetable for Resolution 425. That is, we should not be content with mere talk. In this respect, I would like to draw attention to the fact that the United Nations is responsible for drawing up the timetable.

5. Lebanon has asked all the Arab countries, each country according to its own abilities, to bear the burden of Arab strategy.
6. Lebanon has asked help in its deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south and restoration of its national institutions in that area. Lebanon then requested the formation of a miniauthority by the [Arab] League to draw up details of this strategy and submit it to the league's council. This will include the political, economic and military aspects.

Minister Butrus went on to say: We have never boasted of the cease-fire. What we said was that some Arab countries made efforts to attain a cease-fire and that the Palestinian resistance has adhered to it. We have forever complained of the irresponsible acts that have been going on in the south. He added: Lebanon has, at least, succeeded in getting what it got. For, in the Tunis conference, there were neither indications of any unified Arab strategies nor of the implementation or programming of Resolution 425. This is our stance, and I believe it is a sound one.

Minister Butrus added: We did not go to Fes to put out the fire, but to alleviate the sufferings of the citizens in the south and to implement Resolution 425 and those that followed it.

As for Resolution 490, it was adopted after the raid on Beirut and the south. At this point, we would like to ask: Will the Fes resolution be carried out? We believe that by merely agreeing to discuss the issue of the south, the summit's participants amply indicated their awareness of the importance of and dangers inherent in this problem. However, this leads us into looking at this problem from another angle. The Arab League's secretary general has started contacts for the formation of a miniauthority which would be composed of countries whose views were divergent with regard to other topics. He concluded: If these divergences become too obvious, it will then become difficult to sit at one table and conduct our studies in a positive vein. However, we hope that the differences will remain tactical rather than strategic and that they will not grow. Only then will we be able to continue exchanging views and attaining results.

Later, a number of deputies took the stand and affirmed the importance of the Fes resolution and the need for its immediate implementation, since the Arabs no longer possess excuses for its nonimplementation. Minister Butrus replied to these debates, saying: I have two observations to make:

1. With regard to what we said to the Arabs, there was a clause in my speech: The continuation of the situation in southern Lebanon risks Lebanon's unity and entity, whether Israel occupies parts of Lebanon's territories or continues to escalate its aggression and its raids. We would like you to bear in mind that a desperate nation facing a perilous situation cannot be treated by routine methods. On the other hand, if dealt with by force, it will even lose its right of choice and will thereby have to accept what circumstances impose on it. This acceptance might well be a leap in the dark, because it constitutes an enormous peril to us and to you alike.

The second observation is that, at the summit, we faced two choices: Either to take the Arabs to task -- as deputy Ad-Dahir saw fit to do -- or to try to elicit from them an agreed viewpoint on Lebanon. We chose the second alternative, and we have confidence in it. As for drawing comparisons between the UN Security Council and the Arab League, this is not feasible, because the Security Council is composed of 15 countries out of more than 150 countries, while the Arab League is composed of all its members. Every Arab country adheres only to the resolution it supports. We are still against adhering to the resolution of the majority, but if there is any (?spontaneity), it can only have a political manifestation.

ADF FORCES HALT BEIRUT CLASHES; CLASH IN SOUTH

NC040737 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] The security tension which prevailed in some traditional axes and in the area of Al-Musaytibah has preoccupied the officials, security commanders and other officials concerned. The tension came as efforts were being made to implement the Fes summit conference resolution and start the completion of the decisions reached by the Arab Followup Committee. Clashes took place on the traditional axes yesterday in which various weapons were used. The sounds of the clashes continued to be heard until late last night. No loss of life has been reported. However, material losses have been caused as a result of the clashes.

At 2000 yesterday, clashes occurred between two armed organizations in the area of Al-Musaytibah. The clashes began in the An-Nija quarter and then expanded to the Karakul ad-Druze, and Mar Ilyas areas, during which machineguns and rockets were used. The clashes continued for about 4 hours during which roads were cut off and an atmosphere of terror prevailed. The tension began at about 2000 when the occupants of a passing car fired a B-7 shell at an organization's center in the An-Nija area. The explosion caused casualties. The Arab Deterrent Forces intervened, cordoned off the areas of the clashes and restored calm.

The Secretariat of the Higher Security Committee held an extraordinary meeting at midnight during which it discussed the implications of the clashes and the measures that should be taken to prevent a repetition of the clashes, the first to take place since the application of security measures in the western area of Beirut. A committee source has stated that the committee has put an end to the clashes and adopted strict measures in cooperation with the Arab Deterrent Forces which have been given strict instructions to apprehend every armed person no matter what and remove armed persons from the streets.

In Ash-Shiyah a bomb exploded in a garbage bin near the Mustafa Kanj building. Three young persons were injured and one has since died. A military expert has stated that the bomb consisted of 1 kg of dynamite. The explosion shattered the window panes of neighboring stores and buildings. Last night, a bomb exploded in the Santa Mario sandwich shop. Only material damage was caused.

In the south, a clash occurred between the militiamen of the border strip, using light machineguns, and the UN forces on the hill overlooking Haddathah. The clash, which continued for 40 minutes, was the first to take place since the militias set up a permanent position on the hill 2 weeks ago.

Sporadic Violence Continues

NC040920 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Despite the relative calm prevailing in the areas of Al-Musaytibah, An-Nija and Mar Ilyas in western [Beirut], a state of intense caution dominates these areas in the wake of the violent clashes which occurred last night between the Amal movement and the Iraqi Ba'thists during which rockets of various kinds were used.

Similar caution prevails on the capital's axes, which at times were also subjected to attacks with heavy- and medium-size weapons. The attacks continued until dawn. In the Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda area a Syrian major was assassinated by a gunman. The reasons are not clear. A bomb exploded at dawn today under army Chief Warrant Officer 'Ali Hasan Qasim's car in Bayt Shama in Ba'labakk district. The car was destroyed and some material damage was caused to neighboring houses. In 'Uyun as-Siman, the Syrian artillery shelling has stopped. However, military movements and mechanized concentrations have been observed in the (Al-Qawani') area. The motives are not yet clear.

RADIO CARRIES DECREE RESHUFFLING CABINET

JN041302 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Dec 81

["Text" of Decree No 747 issued 3 December 1981 by President Hafiz al-Asad amending Cabinet]

[Text] Decree No 747

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article I. The Cabinet of the Syrian Arab Republic shall be amended as follows:

Prime Minister:	Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister:	'Abd al-Halim Khaddam
Deputy Prime Minister for Services Affairs:	Walid Hamdun
Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs:	'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah
Minister of Defense:	Gen Mustafa Talas
Minister of Information:	Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad
Minister of Interior:	Nasir ad-Din Nasir
Minister of Supply and Internal Trade:	Muhammad Ghabbash
Minister of Local Administration:	'Adnan Dabbagh
Minister of Electricity:	Dr Engineer Ahmad 'Umar Yusuf
Minister of Education:	Muhammad Najib as-Sayyid Ahmad
Minister of State for Planning Affairs:	Dr Kamal Sharaf
Minister of Industry:	Mahmud Qaddur
Minister of Presidential Affairs:	'Abd al-Karim 'Adi
Minister of Higher Education:	Dr As'ad Darqawi
Minister of Culture:	Dr Najah 'Attar
Minister of Social Affairs and Labor:	Yusuf Ju'aydani
Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade:	Dr Salim Yasin
Minister of State:	Nayif Ta'ani
Minister of Public Works and Water Resources:	Nayif Jarbu'
Minister of Oil and Mineral Wealth:	Dr 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak
Minister of Finance:	Dr Hamdi as-Saqqa
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs:	Faruq ash-Shar'
Minister of Tourism:	Dr Engineer Nawras Ad-Daqr
Minister of Justice:	Khalid al-Maliki
Minister of State:	Mikhayil Naqqul
Minister of Communications:	Engineer Ra'fat al-Kurdi
Minister of Housing and Utilities:	Ahmad Salim Darwish
Minister of Health:	Dr Ghasub ar-Rifa'i
Minister of Religious Trusts:	Dr Muhammad Muhammad al-Khatib
Minister of Transport:	Yunis Muhammad
Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform:	'Ammash Juday'
Minister of Euphrates Dam:	Engineer 'Abd ar-Rahman Madani
Minister of State:	Dr Dawud Hidu
Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs:	Antoine Jubran
Minister of State:	Dib al-Masri
Minister of State:	Hikmat Bayzid

Article II. This decree shall be published and conveyed to those concerned.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, president of the republic.

Further on Reshuffles

JN040734 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Damascus (ONA) -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad issued a presidential decree last night forming a new Syrian Cabinet under Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The new Cabinet comprises 36 ministers, including 10 new ministers, while 23 ministers in the previous Cabinet retained posts on the new formation.

The new Cabinet includes two communist ministers: Minister of Communications Ra'Fat al-Kurdi and Minister of State Dawud Haydar.

HABIB MISSION IS TO REVIVE EISENHOWER DOCTRINE

PM031259 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 29 Nov 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Philip Habib Once Again"]

[Text] Philip Habib has accustomed us to his visiting the area only when his briefcase contains a promise for Israel and a U.S. threat for the Arabs. The U.S. administration has accustomed us to activity in the area only when it seeks to complete a plan serving its desire to dominate the area and serving Israel by consolidating its occupation and reinforcing aggression. President Reagan's administration is different from previous White House administrations in that it directly proposes what it wants and directly exposes all those who cooperate with it in achieving what it wants.

After he took office Reagan came out with an old plan of Eisenhower's that was aborted by demonstrations throughout the Arab world. Now Philip Habib comes believing that the vacuum doctrine put forward in the 50's can be revived 30 years after its defeat and that the Arab situation is likely to accommodate this doctrine without resistance.

In his attempt to impose the vacuum doctrine this time the U.S. envoy is relying on U.S. influence on the Arab area as well as on the U.S. strength in Israel. We do not think that the U.S. administration and the U.S. policy planners have overlooked the strength of Arab popular resistance. Therefore, the Rapid Deployment Force has come to form a cordon around the Arab homeland in order to support all those likely to fall in the face of popular insistence on liberation.

But the various U.S. departments have forgotten that the vacuum they are talking about exists only in their imagination and that the Arabs have undertaken to effectively protect the Arab homeland with a national stand capable of upsetting the vacuum doctrine and the balance of power which the United States has guaranteed will always favor Israel.

The Arab nation, which lived in defeat until 1973, has sufficient strength and capabilities to make it even more insistent on shifting to a higher stage of confrontation.

More than once Syria has declared through its leader that the decision in the area must be Arab, that Palestine comes first, and that there is no substitute for the usurped right of our people.

These words are not a challenge, inasmuch as they reflect the will of the Arab man in all Arab countries. If the phenomenon of retrogression in the Arab ranks has become distinct, the phenomenon of steadfastness has become even more distinct and more influential. This will render Philip Habib's plans, whether in the form of guarantees to Israel or threats to the Arabs, incapable of creating the vacuum the United States is dreaming of.

HABIB MEETS WITH SHAMIR ON LEBANON, MISSILES

TA041106 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that the foreign minister pointed out to U.S. mediator Philip Habib Israel's reservations on the introduction of heavy arms into Lebanon by the terrorists.

This morning, the foreign minister conferred with Philip Habib for 2 hours, during which time the two officials discussed ways to guarantee peace and quiet in southern Lebanon. The missiles stationed there and the status of the Syrian forces in Lebanon were also discussed.

This afternoon Philip Habib will meet the defense minister and will depart for Saudi Arabia tomorrow morning.

INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON COOPERATION MEMORANDUM

TA031603 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 3 Dec 81 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] The Cabinet will launch an information campaign on the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation signed by Israel and the United States, which has been severely criticized in Israeli and world media.

The cabinet will argue that the "Alignment" governments always wanted to reach a similar understanding with the United States on the strategic plane but failed to persuade the United States to sign such an agreement.

As for the contention that the document does not include anything about land maneuvers or military supply depots in Israel, the information guideline is to emphasize that the phrasing of the agreement does not limit the maneuvers to the sea and air and that with time joint exercises on land will also be feasible. One could also interpret the agreement in a way that the United States would establish installations in Israel, although this clause is a bit vague.

The information campaign will state that this was the maximum that was attainable from the United States under the current circumstances, because the United States refused to go any further for fear that the Arabs would misinterpret this to mean that the agreement is against them.

As for the fear of the Soviet Union, most of the wars waged by the Arabs against Israel broke out at the initiative and with the blessing of the Soviet Union. It even threatened to dispatch volunteers to the region during the Sinai campaign. This agreement is aimed at deterring the Soviet Union from stirring up trouble in the area and to cease threatening to send Russian or other Soviet satellite volunteers to the region. The agreement stipulates that the arrival of such external forces would call for mutual military aid between Israel and the United States. This is where the agreement's significance lies insofar as Israel's defense is concerned.

GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE PUBLISHES MFO STATEMENT

TA040918 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 3 Dec 81

[Text] The United States and Israel note the decision of the United Kingdom, France, Italy and the Netherlands to contribute to the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO], to be established in accordance with the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel.

The United States and Israel reviewed the participation of these four countries in light of the following clarifications which they have provided to the United States on November 26, 1981:

-- That they recognize that the function of the MFO is as defined in the relevant Egyptian-Israeli agreements, and includes that of insuring freedom of navigation through the Strait of Tiran in accordance with Article V of the treaty of peace, and

-- That they have attached no political conditions, linked to Venice or otherwise, to their participation.

The United States and Israel understand that the participation of the four and any other participating state is based upon the following:

-- The basis for participation in the MFO is the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel originated in the Camp David accords and the protocol signed between Egypt and Israel and witnessed by the United States on August 3, 1981 based upon the letter from President Carter to President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin of March 26, 1979.

-- All of the functions and responsibilities of the MFO and of its constituent elements, including any contingents that may be formed through European participation, are defined in the treaty of peace and the protocol, and there can be no derogation or reservation from any of them.

As provided in the protocol, all participants in the MFO undertake to conduct themselves in accordance with the terms of the protocol under the direction of the director general appointed by Egypt and Israel. The MFO shall employ its best efforts to prevent any violation of the terms of the treaty of peace. The functions of the MFO will specifically include the following in accordance with the treaty of peace and the protocol:

(A) Operation of checkpoints, reconnaissance patrols, and observation posts along the international boundary and Line B, within Zone C.

(B) Periodic verification of the implementation of the provisions of Annex 1 will be carried out not less than twice a month unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

(C) Additional verifications within 48 hours after the receipt of a request from either party.

(D) Insuring the freedom of navigation through the Strait of Tiran in accordance with Article V of the treaty of peace.

The United States understands and appreciates the concerns expressed by the government of Israel regarding the statements made by the four European contributors in explaining their decision to participate in the MFO to their own legislatures and publics. The United States recognizes that some positions set forth in the statement are at variance with its own positions with respect to the future of the peace process as well as with positions held by Israel as a party to the treaty of peace. The United States and Israel recognize that the positions held on any other aspects of the problems in the area by any state which agrees to participate in the MFO do not affect the obligation of that state to comply fully with the terms of the protocol which was negotiated in accordance with the letter from President Carter to President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin of March 26, 1979, and which is designed to help implement the treaty of peace, which was concluded pursuant to the Camp David accords.

The treaty of peace, in accordance with which the MFO is established, represents the first step in a process agreed on at Camp David whose ultimate goal is a just, comprehensive, and durable settlement of the Middle East conflict through the conclusion of peace treaties based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The United States and Israel reiterate their commitment to the Camp David accords as the only viable and ongoing negotiating process. They renew their determination to make early meaningful progress in the autonomy talks.

EUROPEAN APPROVAL OF MFO PAPER INSISTED ON

TAO40942 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] The Cabinet yesterday decided not to make do with conveying a declaration of principles to the European countries that are to join the Multinational Force and Observers MFO, but to demand that they confirm their acceptance of it.

The cabinet decision followed consultations held over the past 2 days in Jerusalem in which it was decided, with the prime minister's concurrence, to insist that Britain, France, Italy and Holland respond to the declaration of principles sent to them yesterday evening, and affirm its acceptance. This superseded an earlier trend by which Israel would have also been satisfied with no response at all to the declaration by the four European countries.

SHARON'S AFRICAN VISIT LINKED TO STRATEGIC MEMO

TAO31509 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Sources in Jerusalem today confirmed that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in fact recently visited several African countries. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the sources noted that there is a connection between the memorandum of understanding and the tightening of Israel's relations with African states, and with the declaration of the Zaire president in Washington that he is ready to recognize Israel. With respect to Minister Sharon's visit to Africa, it is reported that actions of common interest against common threats to Israel and these countries were discussed there. Our correspondent reports that Israel's main aid will be in various development spheres and in food production. The number of Israelis helping countries in Africa will increase in the near future. It is also reported that the initiative for the resumption of the contacts with Israel was mutual, originating also in African countries. Some of the leaders of these countries agreed with Israel presenting in the United States their fears of Soviet expansion.

On the defense minister's talks in the United States, it is reported that several conclusions were reached as a direct result of the memorandum of understanding. These involve defense and economic matters. Our political correspondent notes that it was agreed that the United States would allow Israel to export security items containing U.S.-made components to various countries. It was also agreed that Israel would be able to exchange part of the United States' economic aid for an investment in the defense industries in Israel. There were also detailed conclusions on intelligence and espionage matters.

As for the strategic cooperation with the United States, it is possible that the two countries' working groups will decide that Israel will help the United States in infrastructure, maintenance and the evacuation of wounded personnel should the United States want to react to a Russian invasion of Iran. This is one possibility, and our political correspondent says that the ministerial defense committee will discuss possible scenarios for dangerous situations and this will form the basis for the strategic cooperation with the United States. It was stressed that in the future too the key for the employment of the IDF will be the extent of the direct threat to Israel's survival. The IDF will not be sent to fight in countries outside the region, such as Iran or other countries. It was also reported that there is nothing in the memorandum that might restrict Israel in its decisions vis-a-vis the confrontation states around it.

IDF RADIO REPORTS MORE DETAILS ON STRATEGIC MEMO

TAO31536 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker]

[Excerpt] Israel will not activate the IDF in Jidda or in Oman unless its security or its survival are in danger, Jerusalem says today. Israel will more often place at the disposal of the United States facilities or infrastructure or a medical backup, should the United States set out to repulse or prevent a Soviet invasion in or around the region. The memorandum gives Israel the right to demand the intervention of the United States in instances in which Israel would have difficulty in coping, Jerusalem says, such as the manning of currently unmanned tanks in Syria by Soviet forces entering the region.

The meaning of the region is, as Israel and the United States agreed, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula. It does not include Libya, Sudan, Iran or Pakistan.

It was reported today in Jerusalem that there are a number of practical conclusions stemming directly from the signing of the memorandum of understanding. There is what is being termed a breakthrough in the sphere of Israeli arms exports that include U.S.-made components; there is a considerable improvement, the sources say, in the distribution of the U.S. aid funds for arms procurement in shekels in Israel, and not just as dollar outlays in the United States; and there are agreements on cooperation in intelligence spheres also. Committees have been set up for military cooperation, for cooperation on defense trade and infrastructure, and for research and development.

Jerusalem is stressing today that Israel has been left free to act and to defend itself against the confrontation states around it. This is an arrangement, the sources say, in which Israel undertakes to give not a little, but in which it also receives to an equal degree, and gets things it could not under any circumstances have received before.

It is also learned that during the talks in Washington both Israel and the United States agreed that difficulty exists in explaining this memorandum. It was agreed that each side would explain the new development in whatever way it found most convenient.

LE FIGARO INTERVIEWS BEGIN ON FAHD PLAN, AWACS

PMO31609 Paris LE FIGARO Magazine in French 28 Nov-4 Dec 81 pp 98-101

[Robert Lacontre interview with Prime Minister Menahem Begin in Jerusalem: "If Fahd Wants Peace, Let Him Come to Jerusalem!" -- date not given]

[Text] Robert Lacontre: Prime Minister, Prince Fahd himself stated that his plan was merely a starting point for trying to find an all-embracing solution. How do you view it?

Menahem Begin: His plan is not a plan; it is a nonplan, a nonprogram. I will use General de Gaulle's words, "I will tell you why!" I will tell you why the eight-point Fahd plan simply shows how to liquidate Israel, not immediately but gradually. The first stage is Israel's withdrawal to the border as it was on 4 June 1967. In other words to less than 30 km from the sea. The PLO now has 130mm Soviet guns which have a 27 km range and missiles. That is a direct threat to our country. The second stage comprises Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district passing under UN control for 3 months. Subsequently those territories will be restored to the PLO. Hence the enemy's forward positions will be 13 km from Tel Aviv, Jaffa and so forth. In a very short time the Palestinian state will become a Soviet base.

Fatah, which is the PLO's main component, defined its intentions clearly at the recent Damascus meeting. I quote: "Strengthening the strategic alliance with the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union." This is a euphemism for: "We are going to serve Moscow." Now Odessa is 2.5 hours from Judea. Therefore the Russians would have no difficulty in transporting arms, equipment, instructors and soldiers. In addition, behind this Palestinian state are Jordan and Iraq, since those two countries are now allies against Iran with Saudi Arabia's help. Finally the Syrians, who are now Jordan's enemies, could suddenly change their minds. That makes four Arab countries, armed to the teeth, which are determined to destroy Israel. Then there is the seventh point: "Recognition of the countries in the region and of those countries' right to live in peace." That has been interpreted by the Europeans and also by the United States, as recognition of Israel. It is just that the word Israel is not mentioned. Meanwhile another very significant event has occurred. A diplomat at the Saudi embassy in Washington specified that the intention was to recognize Israel, 7 hours later an official statement from Riyadh corrected the statement: That diplomat was expressing a personal opinion, his remarks were unfounded.

In any case what is a state, whether recognized or not? Germany recognized the French republic but seized Alsace and Lorraine. Poland was also recognized but Germany and Russia still destroyed the Polish state. Therefore recognition represents no safeguard for the future. The fact is that we are surrounded by enemies. We must be very cautious. We must not allow ourselves to be blinded by words. What is the Saudi crown prince suggesting? The gradual destruction of the State of Israel. President Reagan said that the Fahd plan contained promises of negotiation. However the word "negotiation" does not appear. Everything is dictated to Israel, there is no question of negotiation. The crown prince, and probably the PLO, and perhaps somebody else, dreamed it up to bring Israel to its knees.

This plan, therefore, has no significance for us. It will soon be forgotten like all the other documents aimed at destroying us. If Prince Fahd or King Khalid wants to discuss peace with us, there is only one way of doing so. They can come to Jerusalem and examine ways of living in peace, or they can invite me to Riyadh. I will willingly go to Riyadh to talk with them, or to neutral territory -- Switzerland for instance. We will then be able to discuss peace without documents, without special files, without a lot of blather.

Rober Lacontre: Who do you think killed As-Sadat?

Menahem Begin: The president seems to have been assassinated by a small group of people who live in another world. They think that As-Sadat deviated from Islam and that if they themselves are killed they will go straight to heaven. They are stupid fanatics with whom it is impossible to talk. Look at Khomeynism, that horrible fanaticism, the blackest period in mankind's history, much blacker than the Middle Ages, with executions, torture, massacres and a horrible regime which, in the name of Islam, has spilled over into Syria and Egypt. The president's assassination was a terrible blow for Egypt and for me, because As-Sadat was not only my partner in the peace process but my personal friend. Where you sit now is where the Egyptian president arrived in Jerusalem 4 years ago. I told him in my letter of invitation: You will be received by the whole Israeli people with a great deal of warmth and respect. His visit was an act of courage which I greatly appreciated. That is why I went to his funeral with a very heavy heart. As-Sadat and I often said to each other: We are human, we may die any day, but our nations are eternal. That is why we must make peace for our peoples.

We are sure that peace will outlive each of us. Mubarak has now taken office. He is in control of the situation. We had a very warm conversation. We took each other by the hand and said: peace forever. Such a great and historic event as a peace treaty between two countries which have been at war for 31 years cannot vanish with its authors. Therefore we must now implement the second part of the Camp David agreements: autonomy for the Palestinian Arabs living in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district. It is true that friends can differ, but we are going to continue our negotiations until we finally reach agreement.

Robert Lacontre: Was the Egyptian president's assassination controlled by a foreign power?

Menahem Begin: I can give no proof of that hypothesis.

Robert Lacontre: What role does Al-Qadhdhafi play in international terrorism?

Menahem Begin: As-Sadat said that the Libyan colonel is mad. Can a man who wants to sink the Queen Elizabeth with 2,000 passengers on board be regarded as entirely normal? The most important thing is that he has oil, and Russia is behind him.

Robert Lacontre: Why did he so suddenly leave Chad just when there was talk of Syrian troop movements toward Libya?

Menahem Begin: Who can explain a madman's actions? Why should he need Chad, which is vast, when Libya is gigantic and has only 4 million inhabitants? It is completely irrational. Of course Syria and Libya are linked by a kind of military pact, these two countries help each other. There were aircraft movements between Syria and Libya and vice versa. Al-Qadhdhafi probably asked Damascus to send him aid during the Libyan invasion, then had some new whim.

Robert Lacontre: Why is no more being said about the Syrian missiles on the Lebanese Al-Biq'a lowlands?

Menahem Begin: I have just had a meeting with the U.S. ambassador and asked him the whereabouts of Mr Philip Habib, who promised me several months ago that he would have those missiles withdrawn from Lebanon. I recall that we gave the United States time, but that cannot go on indefinitely.

Robert Lacontre: Do you regard Syria as a new Soviet bridgehead?

Menahem Begin: Syria has, in fact, been a Russian base for at least 6 years. It is what the Americans call "prepositioning." The Syrians have 2,600 Soviet tanks and 1,000 more are at the Russian Army's disposal in case of intervention in the region. The same is true of missiles and aircraft. In addition to the arms it supplies to Syria, the USSR has deployed its own armaments there. That country is entirely a Russian tool in the Middle East.

Robert Lacontre: As-Sadat told me that if Saudi Arabia stopped giving money to the Syrians they would be forced to leave Lebanon, and peace could again be restored.

Menahem Begin: Certainly, but the Saudis have never said anything of the kind. There is therefore in Lebanon a 40,000-strong occupation Army which blindly kills Christians and Muslims. It is referred to as a peacekeeping force. A peacekeeping force which massacres civilians. In Syria itself there is a constant fratricidal war between Shi'ites and 'Alawites. The ruling clique in that country is 'Alawite -- a small Islamic sect which the other Muslims do not accept. Al-Asad belongs to that sect, which governs a country divided between Sunni and Shi'ites who are also constantly killing each other.

Syria also supports international terrorism directly and indirectly through Lebanon. A major faction in the pro-Syrian PLO is completely dependent on the USSR.

Robert Lacontre: The Palestinians are said to have time on their side.

Menahem Begin: That depends to which Palestinians you are referring; moreover the word Palestinian is incorrect. I am a Palestinian too. The British called this region Palestine. Historically speaking it is Israel. We should talk of Arabs or Palestinian Arabs. Some of them are very friendly. The day before yesterday one of them was shot by the PLO just because he was a peaceful and moderate man. We are prepared to discuss peace with such Palestinian Arabs but not with armed Palestinians. No country discusses its own destruction with anybody. Just look at what we have done in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. We have built houses for the Arabs to replace the hovels they lived in for so long, but some people are pushing them into violence.

Robert Lacontre: By April 1982 you will have completely withdrawn from Sinai, and so people cannot understand why you are setting up Jewish colonies in the "occupied territories."

Menahem Begin: The Europeans know what colonialism is from their own experience, but that does not apply in our country. We are not hounding anybody of the Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Our villages are built on rocky land which has never been cultivated. Our populations farm if they can. Otherwise they set up industrial enterprises. They are fully entitled to do that. We had been living there for thousands of years.

Furthermore it is a position of security. Our villages on top of the hills overlook the valleys. The enemy cannot infiltrate without being detected. Thus this is a kind of preventive measure and, I repeat, it is our right to live there without hounding out the Arabs.

Robert Lacontre: Do you not think that by now supplying weapons and AWACS to Saudi Arabia the United States is contemplating a new strategy in the Gulf and the whole Middle East?

Menahem Begin: As far as the Gulf is concerned the Americans have a real problem. They are afraid that the Russians may try to seize it. The situation is particularly dangerous since Iran could become a communist country. Iran is in chaos and the Bolsheviks like chaotic situations. Khomeyni is an old man. He could die suddenly. Now there is an organization in that country which no free man should forget, and that is the Tudeh, the Iranian Communist Party, which is the best organized group in the country. If the chaos continues or if Khomeyni dies, the communists will be able to take control of the country and will then "invite" the Soviet Army to enter Iran. It is important not to forget that there is a treaty between Iran and the USSR signed in 1921 which authorizes the Soviet Union to intervene in Iran under certain conditions. If that happened the whole oil problem would be posed, it is not surprising therefore that the Americans are now waking up to face this new danger. They are trying to set up an intervention force, to redeploy their forces. Moreover that is not enough because the USSR's forces are much superior and are very close. Moreover it is important not to forget that the Russian Army is in Afghanistan. The Soviets could reach the Indian Ocean through Baluchestan in no time and nobody could stop them.

Robert Lacontre: So Saudi Arabia is America's main ally in this area?

Menahem Begin: I would like to explain that the Americans are making a big mistake there. We are trying to explain that to them, to public opinion, the government and Congress. Saudi Arabia has no real army. The monarchy only has a 10,000-strong palace guard, they are certainly not good soldiers. To give sophisticated weapons to a completely backward country which is still living in the Middle Ages will not help anybody.

As-Sadat himself drew my attention to what had happened in Iran. The shah sent thousands of young people to the United States to study. They left illiterate and returned covered in diplomas. Hence they no longer understood why all the country's wealth should go to one family. Saudi Arabia's case is the same, the country's entire wealth belongs to 4,000 princes and princesses. I can give you other details which the Egyptian president gave me. One day a check for \$7 billion was divided among all the princes. If you work out that is more than \$1.5 million for each. Is that not corruption? Saudi Arabia is a country which is rotten to the core, and plunged in medieval darkness.

How can such a country be trusted? What happened in Tehran may happen in Riyadh tomorrow. How can you trust such a weak and unstable ally, which could easily be broken? As-Sadat also told me that the events in Mecca, you remember, 2 years ago, were a real coup d'etat to overthrow the regime. The royal family were saved because they arrived late.

Therefore by trying to win Saudi Arabia's favor and make it an ally, President Reagan, Mr Cheysson and Lord Carrington are making a very serious mistake.

We have paid a high price for our existence, probably more than any other nation. Moreover nobody can realize just how small our country is, especially not the Americans. How can a country be only 8 miles wide, in other words shorter than Broadway? People do not realize the great changes which have come about in armaments. That is why a Palestinian state would be a key position for the USSR. After Syria, Ehtiopia, South Yemen, Libya, Angola, Mozambique and Afghanistan the Russians would thus secure a new base. Consequently we are in mortal danger, surrounded by some 7,000 tanks, 12,000 fighter planes and all sorts of missiles.

In the future all the sophisticated American weapons supplied to Saudi Arabia could fall into the hands of potential enemies, and that will be an obstacle to the peace process. A new war could even break out one fine morning or one rainy day like today, that is why some senators and congressmen on the other side of the Atlantic do not agree with these arms sales to Riyadh. The Saudis will shortly obtain refueling aircraft for their F15's and, if they wish, will be able to launch a surprise attack on us. In these circumstances, how could the Israeli Government and prime minister disregard such a threat? It is important to understand that Israel is a country which is still in a state of war.

PRESIDENT NAVON QUESTIONS FAHD'S SINCERITY

PM031027 Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 29 Nov 81 pp 57, 59

[Joaquim Sokolowicz undated interview in Jerusalem with President Yitzhaq Navon: "We Are Israel; Call Us That"]

[Text] Question: What is your verdict, Mr President, on the Saudi Arabian plan, which even countries which are Israel's friends and allies claim to appreciate?

Answer: To judge the real foreign policy intentions of any leader or regime I always apply the following criterion: What do those same leaders or regimes say to their own peoples in their own languages? What is said abroad to the New York TIMES or LE MONDE does not constitute a commitment but belongs rather to public relations or propaganda. What the Saudis tell Reagan, Mitterrand or Schmidt is only relatively important too. When we hear King Khalid or Prince Fahd tell their people in Arabic that they are willing to make peace with Israel, then I will have to acknowledge that there has been a real change. When As-Sadat announced to his people in his own language that he did not want to wage war any longer, at that moment we realized that his stance was an honest and sincere one.

Question: But is not presenting a peace plan to other countries' governments and announcing it to the world one way of committing oneself for the future?

Answer: Saudi Arabia does not say that it willing to make peace with Israel. The Fahd plan contains no reference to Israel.

Question: Point 7 does, however, imply an implicit recognition of Israel's existence....

Answer: Unfortunately members of government must look reality in the face -- brutally if necessary. There is one issue that is only apparently dialectical; but which is fundamental, as far as the Saudis are concerned. There is no State of Israel, but only a "Zionist entity," as their leaders continue to call our country in their meetings with 'Arafat.

Question: Do you not consider it positive either, from the Israeli viewpoint, that within the Arab context the Saudis are willing now to clash with the opposition offered by the most stubborn regimes?

Answer: Of course it is better than declaring "jihad," or holy war, on Israel, as they did until recently. In this sense it is indeed a positive factor. On the other hand, however, Prince Fahd, in an interview about his plan given to a U.S. journalist, performed outright feats of dialectical conjuring to evade at all costs any questions about Israel. You see, unfortunately we have a very long experience of words turning out to be tricks. If Fahd were sincere, it would be enough for him to say quite simply that when he is talking about the states of the region he means Israel as well. I repeat, it is very important that he prepare his people for the really new and positive step that we would like to see.

Question: Within the framework of its global strategy, the United States needs not only Israel's friendship but also the alliance of the pro-Western Arab countries. Do you believe that Israeli leader Nahum Goldmann is right when he says that we are moving toward a very serious crisis between the United States and Israel?

Answer: In our opinion there is a red line -- concerning our security requirements -- beyond which we cannot go. If the great and powerful United States tried to impose on us something that we considered dangerous in this way, we would have to say "no."

Question: In Europe there is a widespread impression that the Israeli leaders often act without taking the reality of the international situation into account. What is your opinion?

Answer: We fully understand the U.S. desire to form relations with certain Arab countries. However, there is one factor that must be pointed out, and Egypt constitutes a clear example of it. We have no objections to the vast quantity of weapons that that country receives from the United States. Egypt has signed a peace treaty with Israel, so we do not consider its military strengthening as being a threat to us. The case of Saudi Arabia is entirely different, because it still considers itself in a state of war with Israel and has contributed both troops and weapons to all the wars against us over the years. As for the Europeans, it seems to me that they want to make us accept factors that concern what, for them, are vital interests -- the oil deposits.

DAVAR: FRENCH MAGAZINE REPORTS KHADDAM'S REMARKS

TA031438 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Dec 81 p 3

[Report by France-based correspondent Gid'on Qotz]

[Text] Paris (special for DAVAR) -- The JEUNE AFRIQUE magazine quotes in its recent issue unprecedented "positive" remarks on Israel attributed to Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

According to the paper Khaddam said in a closed meeting of Arab leaders in the Fes summit that "Israeli is the only real democracy in the Middle East and this gives importance and significance to the resolutions it adopts through Knesset votes. In contrast, the Arabs' decisions are adopted by single individuals and without prior consultations."

Khaddam who wanted to explain Syrian opposition, in the name of the Arab nation, to the "Fahd plan" added, according to the same source that the Arabs will be able to reach an agreement with Israel when they too "reveal the same determination and fighting spirit Israel has."

POST: POLL SHOWS INCREASED SUPPORT FOR LIKUD

TAO40927 Jerusalem POST in English 4 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Mark Segal]

[Text] The Likud's strength remained stable, with Labour support seeping away to the floating vote, now surfacing at its pre-election level of one-third of eligible ballots. This emerges in the late November poll of the Jerusalem POST conducted by the Modi'in Ezrachi Applied Research Centre when the non-voters rated at 29.9 percent (20.7 percent cannot decide, 3.9 percent will not vote, 5.3 percent will not say) compared to September's figures of 13.7 percent (8.1 percent cannot decide, 0.7 percent will not vote, 4.9 percent will not say).

The survey was conducted towards the end of November among 1,275 adults. Question: If elections were held today which party would you vote for?

	Nov.	Sept.	June elections
	MKs	MKs	MKs
Likud	51	51	48
Labour	41	44	47
NRP	8	7	6
Yisra'el bloc	6	4	4
Tami	2	2	3
Tehiya	4	4	3
Shinuy	2	2	2
CRM	1	2	1
TELEM	1	1	2
Rakah	4	4	4

Centre Director Dr Sara Shemer reported that in checking voter loyalty patterns she found that while 79 percent of Likud voters in June still supported their party, the ratio for Labor was 71 percent. Moreover, two percent of Labour voters now prefer the Likud and another 1.5 percent. Shinuy, with one-quarter of the floating vote derived from former Labour supporters, compared to 18 percent from the Likud.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR RABIN

TAO41000 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Knesset member Yitzhaq Rabin is the public's choice for prime minister, next to Menahem Begin. Rabin is followed by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, 'Ezer Weizman, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir.

These are the findings of a public opinion poll involving a representative sample of 1,261 adult Jews (aged 18 and above), excluding the agrarian collectives.

The subject was included within the framework of a poll for YEDI'OT AHARONOT conducted from 25 November to 2 December by the research institute of the Dahaf Agency, directed by Dr Mina Tzemah.

Question: In your opinion, who among the following persons is best suited to be the next prime minister, after Menahem Begin: Yitzhaq Shamir, Shim'on Peres, 'Ezer Weizman, Yitzhaq Rabin, Ari'el Sharon?

The replies (in percentages) were: Rabin 31.9, Sharon 16.9, Weizman 14.9, Peres 12.8, Shamir 8.7, none of the above 14.8.

The subject was also examined in accordance with the interviewees' vote in the last election. Among Likud voters, 24.2 percent favored Rabin, 28.4 percent Sharon, 18.2 percent Weizman, 3.2 percent Peres and 13.7 percent favored Shamir. Among Alignment voters, 43.5 percent favored Rabin, 2.6 percent Sharon, 11.5 percent Weizman, 29.9 percent Peres and 2.1 percent favored Shamir.

It thus appears that about one-fourth of Likud voters also favor Rabin, and among this group of voters Rabin is just 4 percent behind Defense Minister Sharon.

BRIEFS

IMMIGRATION FROM THE USSR -- In November, only 363 Jews left the Soviet Union, the lowest number of emigrants in the last few years. Only about one-quarter of the emigrants immigrated to Israel. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Dec 81 TA]

TRADE DEFICIT UP -- The first half of 1981 saw a 21 percent increase in the balance of payments deficit as compared to the same period last year. The surplus of imports over exports stood at \$2.1 billion, as compared with \$1.7 billion last year. The spokesman of the Central Bureau of Statistics said that virtually the entire deficit increase stems from a 75 percent growth in defense imports. In the first half of 1981 direct defense imports totalled \$1 billion, as compared with \$600 million in the same period last year. At the end of June 1981, Israel's external debts totalled \$22.2 billion, as compared with \$20.5 billion at the end of June 1980. The total foreign assets held privately, by banks and by the bank of Israel was \$8.5 billion at the end of June 1981, as compared with \$8.2 billion 1 year earlier. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Nov 81 p 1 TA]

AFRO-ARAB CONFERENCE SET FOR 6-9 DEC IN LUANDA

AB031208 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1025 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 2 Dec (ANGOP) -- The liberation of Palestine, Namibia and South Africa and the situation in the Middle East and South Africa, as well as ways and means of maintaining cooperation and unity between the African and Arab people in their struggle for political and economic independence, are the two main points on the agenda of the Afro-Arab conference to be held in the Angolan capital from 6 to 9 December.

The Afro-Arab conference, which will end one day before the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the MPLA-Labor Party, will bring together for the first time prominent individuals from Arab and African countries.

Being nongovernmental, this conference will bring together outstanding personalities of the main political parties, mass organizations and trade unions. All the various political forces and options of the African and Arab countries -- both progressives and moderates -- will be represented at this meeting.

In a recent call for the conference, the international preparatory committee said there is an increasingly greater and urgent need for such a conference because there are new threats to the sovereignty and stability of the African and Arab states. The tension in southern Africa and the Middle East is increasing and the systematic acts of aggression by the apartheid regime of South Africa and the Zionist regime of Israel are being intensified, said the statement, adding that this escalation is carried out with the declared consent of the present U.S. administration.

As this statement by the international preparatory committee of the Afro-Arab conference shows, by coordinating their actions, by forging an alliance to safeguard their national independence and peace in the face of their common enemies -- imperialism, apartheid and Zionism -- the African and Arab people, through their struggle and with the solidarity of the other peoples of the world, will become an invincible force.

Certain that the Luanda conference will constitute a historic landmark, the international preparatory committee is strongly convinced that this new and original initiative will have even greater success than previous governmental initiatives, thus paving the way for the development of multilateral and bilateral cooperation between the Africans and Arabs at the level of governments and states.

Furthermore, the organizers of the conference have just confirmed that the opening session will be addressed by prominent African and Arab leaders whose names will be disclosed at the appropriate time.

ALGERIAWEINBERGER VISIT 'UNDERMINES' SAHARA SOLUTION

LD032358 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpt] With regard to the Saharan problem, political observers note that despite international support and the international organizations' resolutions calling for the Saharan people to be enabled to exercise its right to self-determination and for direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front, the United States is now, together with Morocco, striving to undermine peaceful efforts and to step up tension in the region.

In the framework of this activity, the American secretary of defense began a visit to Morocco yesterday at the head of a military delegation. These observers believe that the lengthy talks of the American delegation chief with King Hassan II relate to American intentions to supply the Rabat regime with the most modern arms.

ALGIERS REPORTS ALGERIAN-FRENCH JOINT STATEMENT

LD021736 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Algeria ended this evening with a joint statement in which Algeria and France call for scrupulous respect for the equality of states and their sovereignty, integrity and national identity and for international relations based on the real and democratic participation of all states. They denounce all forms of interference and all attempts to subdue people and condemn imperialism, racism and apartheid. They pledge to work to see that the peoples' right to self-determination is fully respected and implemented everywhere.

The two countries support the efforts of the international community -- for example, regional UN organizations -- to ensure for all peoples the effective exercise of their rights and to gain a preserve for their independence. They call for an international solution to the problems of peace and security, disarmament and development. France and Algeria oppose confrontation between blocs and are profoundly worried by the acceleration of the arms race, particularly by the states possessing the biggest arsenals. Algeria and France are worried by the continuation in international economic affairs of relations of domination and exploitation as well as by the growing inequalities separating the developing and developed countries. They are determined to contribute to the establishment of a new international economic order by promoting global negotiations, which should start immediately, within the UN framework. This new system should be followed by a speeding up of the development of the South countries so that they can fully exercise their independence and assert their national identity. This will contribute to improving the international economy which is now in a state of crisis and to guaranteeing peace and stability in the world.

In the bilateral sphere, Algeria and France intend to open the way to original and exemplary efforts in international economic cooperation and, to this end, agree to jointly examine a certain number of concrete actions to be undertaken by the two countries through the participation of all the industrial, technical and academic instruments concerned.

By these actions, which will signal the innovative spirit of our relations, France and Algeria intend to put into practice their shared attachment to the development of the peoples and to mutual respect among states. The intensity of the bonds they have formed and the breadth of their common interests will enable progress to be made on the road to mutually beneficial economic relations and cooperation in contractual form.

Mitterrand Cables Bendjedid

LD021532 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] On leaving Algiers yesterday evening, the French president sent the following cable to Bendjedid: On leaving Algeria, I should like to express deep gratitude for the welcome accorded me during my stay by the people, the government and you. Our talks lead me to conclude that our relations have embarked on a good phase which will enable the establishment of an ambitious cooperation with the spirit of friendship and trust.

LIBYARENE TOLD TROOPS READY 'TO DEFEND' SEYCHELLES

LD021456 Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) -- The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has informed President Albert Rene of the Seychelles that the Jamahiriya is quite ready to send troops to defend Seychelles against any U.S. threats or provocations.

The message said that the Libyan forces are at the disposal of the people of Seychelles in countering any U.S. imperialist danger that might harm their freedom, violate their security and shake their stability. These forces will return to the Jamahiriya as soon as their mission is fulfilled, the message added.

JANA: CIA DOCUMENT TO NATO ATTACKS LIBYA

LD022002 Tripoli JANA in English 1826 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Washington, 2 Dec (JANA) -- The terrorist American agency, the CIA, is continuing its attacks on the Jamahiriya. Last week it presented NATO with a secret report urging European countries to stand against Libya and in support of its criminal imperialist scheme which aims at impairing the Libyan Arab-European relations in order to serve the greedy American interests.

The Italian newspaper (?LA STAMPA) reported in the 30th November edition that what worried NATO countries was the CIA's denunciation of Libya's decision to form a rapid "intervention" force, a force unique of its kind in Africa. The CIA report had deliberately distorted the true intentions behind the formation of this force, the sole objective of which is to help freedom fighting countries against American imperialism. This report is part of the campaign of hatred and conspiracy launched by American administration against the Jamahiriya, a campaign which relies on lies, falsifications and ideological deception, and exposes American terrorist intentions aimed at forcing anti-American systems to change their position. This anti-Jamahiriya policy springs from imperialist arrogance and muscle flexing to terrorise peaceful nations. It also follows a series of American enemy positions against the Libyan Arab people in this attempt across international fields to reject the American imperialist presence.

AMERICAN-ARAB SOCIETY CABLES AL-QADHDHAFI

LD022042 Tripoli JANA in English 1845 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) -- Mohammad al-Mahdi, chairman of the American-Arab Society, has sent a cable to the revolution's leader acquainting him of the American administration's vile conspiracies against the Jamahiriya.

He informed the leader that the American administration's conspiracies include criminal plans aimed at the revolution's leader. He said that criminal American elements were employed to execute these plans, which reveal to public opinion the extent of the Reagan administration's criminal conduct in its relations with other countries following policies disliked by Washington.

Al-Mahdi denounced the CIA murderers' treacherous conduct in assassination schemes, organizing coups in various countries.

SHARON OFFERS AFRICANS HELP AGAINST LIBYA

NC040817 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] A member of the Zionist Knesset has revealed that Zionist War Minister terrorist Ari'el Sharon has offered two African states the help of the Zionist air force in order to commit an aggression against the Jamahiriya. Zionist Knesset Member (Pierre Filez) explained before the Knesset the day before yesterday that this offer was made during the trip which Sharon made to a number of African states 2 weeks ago.

MOROCCO

COLLEGE STUDENTS BEGIN 24-HOUR PROTEST STRIKE

NC031541 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Rabat, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Students in all Moroccan universities began a 24-hour strike today in protest at the establishment of security guards in every institution of higher education a (?few) weeks ago.

The left-wing Moroccan National Union of Students (UNEM), which alleges the guards are indistinguishable from the police, is also claiming an increase in student grants, the right for anyone with secondary school qualifications to attend university, and a solution to the problems of housing, canteen and teaching facilities.

The students said today that the strike was virtually total, and no incidents had so far been noted.

Students at Takkadoun Training College for Teachers in Higher Education at Rabat started an indefinite strike yesterday to show solidarity for ten of their colleagues who were expelled a month ago for "agitation."

Student sources said that a member of the Executive Committee of UNEM, Mohsin Ayush, who runs the student publication DEMOCRATIC YOUTH, was arrested by police at home last night.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI RETURNS FROM TALKS WITH EGYPT'S MUBARAK

JN031652 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpt] President Numayri returned to Khartoum at 1530 today from Aswan after a short working visit to Egypt, during which he met with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The two presidents discussed a number of matters, bilateral relations and current Arab issues within the framework of continued consultations between them.

President's Comments

JN031900 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Dec (SUNA) -- President Numayri has stated that the failure of the recent Arab summit is due to the attitude of Libya and Syria and some other Arab states which do not want to clarify their position for tactical and economic reasons. Following his talks with President Husni Mubarak in Aswan today, President Numayri said Arab and international positions are changing rapidly and what he said last May does not conform to current positions. The president said what we said then was aimed at bringing the Arab states and Egypt together to work toward peace. He denied that he came to Aswan as a mediator and asserted that Egypt's policy is clear and that Egypt doesn't want any mediators between it and any other party. President Numayri said further that Egyptian President Mubarak asserted during his recent speeches that Egypt is prepared to accept and deal with any Arab state desirous of cooperation. Egypt, he said, has made it clear that popular and official cooperation is continuing with all the Arab states and there are no differences except on matters of opinion concerning the contents of the Camp David agreements and whether these agreements lead to a solution to the fateful Arab cause. Egypt, he said, has made it clear that this is not a comprehensive solution but the beginning of a solution. President Numayri announced that Egypt proved that it is possible to find a solution to the fateful cause if all the Arab states march on such a road.

Answering questions by reporters, President Numayri said his visit to Aswan was important and useful in all aspects. The visit, he said, came within the framework of bilateral meetings necessitated, particularly at present, by a rapidly changing world. These changes require exchanges of views in order to draw up a joint plan of action within the framework of consultations on issues which have appeared since his last meeting with President Husni Mubarak.

Asked if his talks with President Mubarak had dealt with the Saudi peace plan submitted to the Fes summit, President Numayri said, Yes. He said the plan is one of the topics which he believes recently has changed Arab stands. His excellency pointed out that major differences exist among the Arabs and these are bound to affect the future of the Arab world.

Asked what he foresees next since the failure of the Fes summit and the peace efforts, President Numayri said: President Husni Mubarak and I agreed to work for the sake of Arab solidarity. We agreed there should be logical stands that will lead to peace and will not embarrass Egypt or any other Arab country which calls for peace. This is what our talks dealt with and this is our objective, President Numayri added.

On his endeavors to bring about an Egyptian-Saudi reconciliation, President Numayri said: Our talks did not deal with one state in particular but with the Arab nation in general. We discussed ways and means to unify the Arab and to intensify their solidarity.

Asked if he discussed a reconciliation between Sudan and Chad with President Mubarak, President Numayri said, Yes. He added that a Chadian presidential envoy had come to Sudan with a message from President Goukouni Oueddei. The same envoy is scheduled to meet with President Mubarak. We have agreed to work for peace in Chad and not to give any chance to those countries which seek to carry out acts of sabotage inside Chad and to open the doors for enemies to infiltrate into this vital area.

President Numayri expressed the hope that the Arab nation will solve its problems by peaceful means. He also expressed the hope that the Arabs would find an opening for formulating a peace plan compatible with what Egypt has done because this would make the Arabs a military, economic and political force indisputably enjoying the weight of a third force in the world. His excellency said there are Arab countries working sincerely for peace whereas other Arab countries clearly are working against the Arab world.

NUMAYRI BLAMES AL-ASAD FOR DAMASCUS MASSACRE

JN031455 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Dec (SUNA) -- President Numayri said last Sunday's Damascus catastrophe was prompted by the Syrian regime's excessive sins and denial of the justice of God and its attempt to extinguish the light of the Koran and Islam. This was in a message sent by President Numayri to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He said the regime's pursuit of killing and torturing the people unjustly and without a fair trial caused this catastrophe.

CHADIAN JUSTICE MINISTER ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM

EA032148 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Kassire Delwa, Chadian justice minister, arrived at Khartoum airport this morning, carrying a written message from Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, concerning the establishment of peace and stability in Chad.

The Chadian minister is accompanied by Messrs 'Abdallah Adam (Manna), Chadian roving ambassador for the Middle East, and (Musa Nuri), ambassador at the Chadian Foreign Ministry.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS SOCIALIST UNION SECRETARIES

JN011843 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA) -- Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri issued today a presidential decree according to which he appointed the following as secretaries and deputy secretaries in the Secretariat general of the SSU [Sudan Socialist Union].

1. Sectoral Organizations Department:

Ar-Rashid at-Tahir al-Bakr	Secretary
'Abd al-Qasim Hashim	Deputy secretary
Bona Milwal	Deputy secretary
Dr Hasan 'Abidin	Assistant secretary

2. Popular Organizations Department:

Joseph Lago	Secretary
Nafisah Ahmad al-Amin	Deputy secretary
Dr Isma'il al-Haj Musa	Deputy secretary

3. Organization Affairs Department

Zayn al-'Abidin Muhammad Ahmad	Secretary
Muhammad Hassan (al-Jack)	Deputy secretary

4. Programs and Foreign Affairs Department:

Dr 'Awn ash-Sharif Qasim	Secretary
Hilary Paulo Logali	Deputy secretary
Dr Hasan 'Abdallah at-Turabi	Deputy secretary

5. Social and Economic Affairs Department:

Badr ad-Din Sulayman	Secretary
Peter Gath Koth	Deputy secretary
'Umar Taha Abu Samra	Assistant secretary

6. Northern Region Affairs Department:

Major General Jismallah 'Abdallah Rusas	Secretary
'Ali Tamim Firtak	Assistant secretary

7. People's Assemblies Corporations Affairs Department:

'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid	Secretary
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8. National Council for Friendship, Solidarity and Peace:

Dr Ahmad as-Sayyid Hamid	Secretary
Dr Muhammad Yusuf Bushara	Deputy secretary

TUNISIAFORMER LABOR LEADER PARDONED BY BOURGUIBA

LD301522 Tunis TAP in English 1345 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Tunis, 30 Nov (TAP) -- Tunisia's President Habib Bourguiba received this morning former Secretary General of Tunisia's Labour Union (UGTT), Habib Achour, and decided to grant him pardon. Therefore, the page of 26 January 1978, date of the workers' riots, is definitely turned over.

Elected Union Chairman

LD020210 Tunis TAP in English 1349 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Tunis, 1 Dec (TAP) -- Granted the president's pardon, former secretary general of the Tunisian Labour Union (UGTT) Habib Achour has been elected chairman of the trade union, which raises the number of Executive Committee members to 14.

GDR FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER DEPARTS 3 DEC

LD031924 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The GDR minister of foreign trade left Tunisia this morning at the end of an official visit during which he headed his country's delegation to the meetings of the Tunisian-GDR joint committee.

Before leaving, he expressed his satisfaction with the mutual confidence evident during the talks. He described the committee's meeting as useful because it laid down the foundation for true cooperation that is beneficial to both countries.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLICNATION MARKS ANNIVERSARY IN AUSTERE MANNER

AB011923 Paris AFP in French 1244 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Bangui, 1 Dec (AFP) -- Ceremonies commemorating the 23d anniversary of the CAR took place on Tuesday in a very simple way. They were characterized in both Bangui and the provinces by austerity.

On Monday evening in a radio and televised nationwide broadcast, General Kolingba explained that after 2 decades of excessive expenditure, thoughtless administration, indebtedness, waste of public finances, stealing and embezzlement of public funds, it would be incomprehensible for one to suppose that one is living in easy times. The CAR head of state urged his fellow countrymen to exercise the spirit of sacrifice. Our administration, which is marked by austerity, resolutely wanted this national holiday to be without costly activities and without expenditure on luxuries, he said. Before making any demands, one must take the country's overall economic and financial situation into consideration, he added.

In a brief review of the republic's 23 years, president Kolingba said the CAR had gone through many mishaps which have led to general economic collapse coupled with an unprecedented political crisis. After noting that the CAR people have never liked the divisive spirit, General Kolingba asserted that the army would do everything possible to preserve national unity and to foil any attempt at divisiveness.

PARTY CLAIMS NIGERA HELD, TORTURED LEADER

AB031805 Paris AFP in French 1312 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Paris, 3 Dec (AFP) -- The Ubangui People's Patriotic Front-Labor Party (FPO-PT) accused Nigerian authorities of having detained under sordid conditions for 2 days its president, Prof Abel Goumba, at the Lagos airport, just as he was getting ready to return to Bangui on 19 November.

In an open letter published Thursday in Paris, along with a handwritten letter from Goumba, denouncing the sordid conditions of his detention, the Central African opposition party says it is shocked.

Abel Goumba, the FPO-PT states, was detained and treated like a prisoner. He was morally tortured and degraded. The FPO-PT finds the treatment meted out to its leader intolerable. It denounces this practice which is contrary to the most elementary rules of international law. It condemns it and expects explanations from the Nigerian Government

In his letter, Goumba describes how he was detained without food or drink and the questioning to which he was submitted in connection with his relations with the leader of the Central African Movement for National Liberation, Iddi Lala, and with Libya.

CHADTRANSPORT MINISTER SAYS OAU FORCE MUST FIGHT FAN

AB021314 Paris AFP in French 1156 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Lome, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Chadian Transport Minister Facho Balaam on Wednesday affirmed in Lome that the inter-African peacekeeping force for Chad should fight against Hissein Habre's FAN with which there is no question of negotiation.

We have attempted to integrate all the armed forces which are now under government control. The OAU must come to Chad to maintain peace and recognize the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), the Chadian minister told journalists.

Balaam, who is in the Togolese capital to attend a meeting of the ministerial committee of the member countries of the Air Afrique Airline, pointed out that the neutral force should not serve as a buffer force between the GUNT's forces and the FAN. They will have to fight against the FAN or keep away, he said.

OAU REPRESENTATIVE: FORCES WILL DEFEND ZONES

ABO21328 Paris AFP in French 1037 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 2 Dec (AFP) -- The special representative of the OAU secretary general, Gebre Egziabher Dawit, said in Ndjamena on Tuesday that the various contingents of the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad will have the responsibility of actively defending their operational zones against possible attacks by dissident elements.

On the other hand, explained Dawit during an interview with the Western press, the neutral force will not be used as a buffer force between the dissident elements and the troops of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] which, he recalled, is recognized as the legitimate government of Chad.

Edem Kodjo's representative decided to clarify the OAU's position on the role assigned to the African peacekeeping force because of a series of attacks made against the OAU secretary general by the Chadian press and radio following the Nairobi meeting of the countries to contribute to the neutral force. After describing these criticisms as incorrect and unfounded, Dawit pointed out that Kodjo has been making efforts to ensure the speedy deployment of the neutral force in Chad. In this connection, he indicated that he has protested to the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Throughout the interview, Dawit avoided any direct reference to Hissein Habre's FAN, which have launched an attack against GUNT troops in eastern Chad, preferring to talk about dissident elements. He expressed the hope that the latter will not attack zones controlled by the neutral force.

Dawit also addressed himself to Chad's neighbors whom he asked to cooperate with the OAU and to refuse all assistance to the dissident elements in conformity with the appeal of the current chairman of the pan-African organization. In this connection, he welcomed the Khartoum government's proposal to the OAU chairman, concerning the reactivation of the Chadian-Sudanese joint border commission.

Finally, Dawit stressed that the deployment of the inter-African force in Chad is only a means to achieve a political objective: the organization of a referendum which will provide Chad with a new constitution and the holding of elections from which will emerge the government which will replace the GUNT.

NIGERIAN COMMANDER OF PEACE FORCE ARRIVES

ABO31200 Paris AFP in French 0905 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Gen Geoffroy Ejiga of Nigeria, commander in chief of the inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad, arrived in Ndjamena late Wednesday afternoon accompanied by his personal staff.

Arriving on board two Hercules C-130's of the Nigerian Army, General Ejiga and his entourage were welcomed at the Ndjamena airport by Colonel Malu-Malu, commander of the Zairian contingent of the neutral force, and Lt Col Thierno Ndiaye, commander of the Senegalese contingent.

No member of the Chad Government was present -- it was represented by Air Force Colonel Zakaria and Commander Magongar, who chairs the military welcoming committee for the inter-African force.

After a preliminary statement appealing to the Chadian people to cooperate with the contingents of the neutral force, General Ejiga held an impromptu press conference. He announced that the first part of the Nigerian contingent (2,000 men) will begin to arrive in Chad on 7 December and will be dispatched immediately to their operational zone. General Ejiga said in this connection that the Government of Cameroon has granted the Nigerian authorities permission for the troops from Lagos to cross the northern tip of its territory as they will be coming by road from Maiduguri, northern Nigeria. He said the Nigerian contingent will receive its supplies mostly by road.

After estimating that the neutral force will be made up of more than 6,000 troops when it reaches its full strength on 17 December, which is the deadline set for their arrival, General Ejiga briefly described the task of the staff of the inter-African force. According to the Nigerian officer, the delimitation and assignment of the operational zones to each of the six contingents should be completed before Friday. After this, the units already in Chad will begin to proceed to their respective operational zones. The commander in chief of the African peacekeeping force stressed the desire not to concentrate troops in Ndjamena itself.

Asked about the effective participation of Benin, Guinea and Togo, the commander in chief of the inter-African forces replied: So far, we have not received any information to the contrary and we are going to assign an operational zone to them.

In conclusion, General Ejiga said he felt that the fact that the neutral force is made up of one English-speaking contingent and five French-speaking contingents will not present any insurmountable difficulties. Problems of method and language will crop up, he said, but we are all soldiers and this will not prevent us from working together.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU ON CHAD FORCE, REAGAN TALKS, ISRAEL

AB031617 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] "I had a moral debt to pay to the OAU." This was the admirable statement made by the founding president yesterday in Washington. Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko was answering questions from American journalists during a remarkable press conference. As for the battery of questions put to him, the president did not dodge any of them. To each question, there was an answer. To a question on why the Zairian troops were the first to arrive in Chad, the head of state answered: "The OAU gave precious help to Zaire during the Shaba I and Shaba II aggressions by placing a strong military contingent at our disposal. Chad offers us today an opportunity to reciprocate this gesture. It is a matter of moral debt." But Zaire will not stop at this.

According to the president Kinshasa is ready to go even further, for example, by increasing the number of men in its contingent. In a late dispatch from Washington, we learn that the Zairian contingent will be increased to 2,000 men instead of the 800 men initially proposed. What is the reason for this sharp increase? To this question, the founding president answered: "It is because Guinea, Togo and Benin cannot meet their commitments." Thus, the OAU force will be made up of Zairian, Nigerian and Senegalese troops. President Reagan was not indifferent to Zaire's performance in Chad. Washington, in fact, has promised substantial aid to Kinshasa within this framework.

Other questions bore on the Mobutu-Reagan talks of last Tuesday. What did they discuss? What is the outcome of their talks? The head of state answered: "The topics discussed during the Mobutu-Reagan meeting fall into two categories: first, security and second, economy." The president was very pleased with the outcome of the talks. Zaire is to receive \$33 million for economic investments and projects in Zaire and \$12 million for military matters. By doing so, Washington perhaps wanted to demonstrate the excellence of relations between Zaire and the United States.

Other topics on which the head of state expressed his satisfaction are his talks with IMF and World Bank officials. The efforts of good management and economic and financial redress embarked upon by the Executive Council have brought about excellent results. We must naturally continue in this direction. International financial institutions are ready right now to support Zaire in its efforts. A mission of the IMF and the World Bank is to pay a visit to Zaire soon to carry out an on the spot assessment.

Reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Zaire also was discussed. For the founding president, the issue of reestablishment of diplomatic relations is not a difficult matter for his country. The founding president pointed out, however, that he would not make a decision until other African states have made their stands known on this issue.

The president spoke again at length on the issue of the Zairian troops in Chad. He said that Zaire will send its supplementary troops -- about 1,200 men -- when its receives the supplies and equipment it is expecting from the United States and which must arrive very soon. All has been said and done in Washington. The president is leaving the American federal capital today for New York.

AZAP COMMENTARY EXAMINES ZAIRE-U.S. RELATIONS

AB021718 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1359 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Commentary: "Confirmation of Deep Friendship"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 1 Dec (AZAP) -- It is indeed premature to take stock of the MPR founder's current visit to the United States. Nevertheless, if one considers the extremely warm discussions he has been holding and their results, one can already state that the visit falls under good auspices and that it will eventually turn out to be a complete success.

Even prior to his meeting with the American leader, President Mobutu was able to assess the strong and sincere friendship between Zaire and the United States after his discussions at the State Department and Pentagon. This was subsequently confirmed by an official statement announcing an increase in the amount of U.S. assistance to Zaire in defense, technology and foodstuffs. The assistance will amount to \$45 million.

Not very long ago when Reagan came to power in the United States, some [words indistinct] predicted that U.S. interest in Africa would decrease in view of the statements made then by some officials of the new Republican administration. It was believed that Reagan's America was too absorbed in domestic affairs marked by recession and a particularly high unemployment rate to continue its program of assistance to Africa. Now, later proof has been given that far from being the least of U.S. worries, Africa remains a centerpiece of its global strategy.

Furthermore, on several occasions, the American people have proven through their rich 200-year history that despite their own problems, they are more than ever attentive to calls for assistance and friendship. Since Zaire became a sovereign nation, it has been one of the major beneficiaries of the generosity of the friendly U.S. people. In return, Zaire has never tried to sell its sincere friendship to America.

Zaire is now going through hard times in view of the crisis -- add to this, the price of the temporary intervention which it must embark upon to assume its African mission. It has, therefore, undertaken, the first results of which have begun to materialize. We understand that the success of such an undertaking can only be assured by involving our own means first. Foreign assistance is only a (?pledge) of support from donor countries.

Right from the beginning, the United States made it a point of showing that Zaire is a major link in the chain of friendship which it is maintaining the world over. It showed this not through mere words, but through consistent assistance in various forms.

The assistance announced on Monday within the framework of the MPR founder's visit is henceforth a demonstration of the friendship between Zaire and the United States. This friendship has on no occasion been questioned and is being further strengthened everyday.

PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS KINSHASA

AB021228 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Summary] Gong Dafei, Chinese vice foreign minister in charge of African affairs, yesterday was the guest of the permanent secretary of the Political Bureau, citizen Pinga Katenda, and of the deputy executive secretary of the party, Kibuabua. They discussed bilateral cooperation in agriculture as well as relations between the CCP and MPR.

Meets State Commissioner

AB031220 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The first state commissioner, citizen Nsinga Ndjoo Ongwakebi Untube, yesterday received the Chinese vice foreign minister in charge of African affairs at the council building. They discussed relations between China and Zaire.

FIRST STATE COMMISSIONER PRESENTS BUDGET

AB021515 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Citizen Nsinga Udjoo Ongwakebi Untube, executive secretary of the party and first state commissioner, on behalf of the president, yesterday presented the budget proposals to the People's Legislative Council which met in a plenary session under the chairmanship of citizen (Nzondomio Ado Nkolingo). The estimated revenue for the period is 7,864 billion Zaires while the estimated expenditure for the same period is 8,864 billion Zaires--a deficit of exactly 1 billion Zaires.

According to the party executive secretary, once this budget is adopted and executed with rigor, the Executive Council will be able to begin the implementation of the important state decisions made by the Central Committee and to bring about remarkable improvement in the Zairian people's living conditions. In short, it is a realistic budget taking into account efforts already made to revive the economy, to launch great social actions and to pay more attention to agriculture.

ANGOLAAIR COMMANDER, GENERAL STAFF DEPUTY DISMISSED

EA040650 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] President Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in decrees issued in Luanda yesterday, dismissed Lt Col Fiel da Conceicao Gato, commander of the People's Air Force of Angola, and David Moises Ndozi, member of the party Central Committee and deputy chief of the General Staff.

In another decree, also issued yesterday, the president appointed Lt Col Antonio dos Santos Franca Ndalo to the post of deputy defense minister. He is a member of the party Political Bureau.

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES 2 DEC

AB031753 Paris AFP in French 1433 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 3 Dec (AFP) -- A French parliamentary delegation headed by Andre Bellon and comprising Jean de Lipkowski and Laurent Klein arrived in Luanda on Wednesday evening, LE JOURNAL DE ANGOLA stated on Thursday.

The delegation, which will stay in Angola for 4 days during which it will hold discussions with Angolan authorities on the Namibian issue, will also go with SWAPO leaders to Namibian refugee camps in southern Angola.

The French parliamentary delegation's visit falls within the scope of the discussions currently going on among the five member countries of the contact group on Namibia whose last proposals envisage the election of a constituent assembly in Namibia and the definition of a guarantee for the white minority in that country.

CUBAN ARMED FORCES ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

AB031246 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Cuban Armed Forces yesterday celebrated the 25th anniversary of its establishment. In Angola, the day was marked by several political, recreational and cultural activities. In Luanda, the Cuban ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola, Francia Mestre Rafael, held a press conference on Angolan television, during which he spoke about several subjects relating to the political, economic, cultural and social life of his country.

It should also be noted that 3 December coincides with the anniversary of the holding of the first congress of the Cuban Communist Party.

BOTSWANAPRESIDENT DENIES REPORTS ON SOVIET ADVISERS

AB021918 Paris AFP in French 1658 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 2 Dec (AFP) -- Quett Masire, president of Botswana, said he fears South Africa will step up raids across the border into his country and reaffirmed Botswana's neutrality with his powerful neighbor.

In an interview published today by the South African newspaper, THE STAR, Masire categorically asserted that Botswana will not permit the opening of a second military front against South Africa and that neither the Soviet Union nor a guerrilla organization like the ANC has been putting any pressure on his government to open a new front.

Botswana would be mad to attack South Africa. It is unthinkable, the Botswana president declared.

Commenting on the recent exchanges of fire across the two countries' borders, Masire believes such incidents are mere accidents.

According to Masire, South Africa has justified its raids on Botswana as reprisals for attacks carried out from our country, just as it has done in its similar raids on Mozambique and Angola. But we know this is a mere fabrication, he added. We wonder if this is not a prelude to some sinister intention.

Replying to a question on the delivery of arms to Botswana by the Soviet Union, President Masire said this was done on a purely commercial basis.

Finally, Masire denied rumors and information that there are 300 Soviet advisers in Botswana. There are only 31 Soviet nationals in Botswana and all of them belong to the embassy.

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO OFFICIAL RECEIVES EL SALVADOR DELEGATION

EA302028 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Marcelino dos Santos, Frelimo Central Committee secretary for economic policies, today received in Maputo a delegation of the El Salvador Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The Farabundo Marti delegation arrived in Maputo last Wednesday and is led by (Oscar Bonilla), special envoy of the Political Committee of the National Directorate for International Relations. He is carrying a message from Salvador Cayetano [Carpio], commander in chief of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, for President Samora Machel.

The representatives of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front will hold talks with cadres of the Frelimo party aimed at strengthening relations between the front and Frelimo.

SWAZILAND

SECURITY FORCES CLASH WITH ANC GUERRILLAS

AB031505 Paris AFP in English 1428 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Swaziland security forces exchanged fire with guerrillas of the African National Congress who were trying to cross the border from Mozambique, the Johannesburg newspaper THE STAR reported today.

Two people had been wounded and two more arrested in the clashes on Tuesday night near the Nomahasha frontier post in northeast Swaziland and a hunt for the guerrillas had been launched throughout the region, THE STAR said.

The group of about 20 guerrillas was apparently intending to enter South Africa, whose border at that point is only about 15 kilometres (ten miles) away, the report added. A number of cars were waiting for them.

After the clash roadblocks were set up, the area combed and reinforcements flown in. It was one of the largest operations ever mounted by the security forces of the tiny kingdom bordered on three sides by South Africa and on the fourth by Mozambique.

The African National Congress (ANC) is a black nationalist organisation fighting to end white minority rule in South Africa, where it is banned.

ZAMBIAPORTUGAL'S EANES ARRIVES 29 NOV ON 3-DAY VISIT

CA301444 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Excerpt] President Antonio Ramalho Eanes of Portugal arrived in Lusaka today to a rousing welcome on his 3-day visit to Zambia. General Eanes, who is heading a powerful 115-man delegation, arrived at the Lusaka international airport in an Air Portugal 707 and was met by President Kaunda. President Eanes is accompanied by his wife, Madam Maria Eanes; minister of foreign affairs, Mr Andre Goncalves Pereira; and several other senior government officials. Among the Zambian leaders who welcomed General Eanes were Party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba, prime minister, Nalumino Mundia, state secretary for defense and security, Grey Zulu, foreign affairs minister, Professor Lameck Goma, and several other party and government officials.

Private Talks Reported

LD302206 Lisbon in Portuguese to Europe 1900 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] In Lusaka this morning, President Ramalho Eanes began his talks with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda on southern Africa and bilateral matters.

Portugal is willing to collaborate actively in the international initiatives designed to decolonize Namibia, President Eanes assured his Zambian counterpart today.

Summing up today's private talks between the two presidents, a presidential spokesman also disclosed that Eanes had explained that Angola had not been included in his southern African tour because he had not been invited to visit the country.

The Portuguese news agency, ANOP, said, quoting other sources, that President Kenneth Kaunda had taken the opportunity to broach this matter to point out that Angola and Mozambique have the regimes that they have today because of the former Lisbon government's mistakes and lack of vision. In this connection, Kaunda revealed that in 1966 and 1969 he had addressed letters to Salazar and Marcello Caetano offering his collaboration on initiatives designed to ensure Angola's and Mozambique's independence through elections. However, no reply was received.

The presidential spokesman, Joaquim Letria, confirmed an ANOP report that the two countries would sign a cultural agreement during President Eanes' visit.

Communique Issued

LD021100 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Ramalho Eanes embarks on the third leg of his tour of southern Africa today by visiting Tanzania.

A joint communique on his visit to Zambia released in Lusaka and Lisbon calls for the immediate withdrawal of the foreign troops occupying East Timor, in a reference that [words indistinct].

Dealing mainly with international politics, the communique expresses the support of Portugal and Zambia for the UN Security Council's plan for Namibia whose independence must occur no later than 1982. The two sides also condemn South African aggression against the frontline states and demand the urgent withdrawal of the South African troops from southern Angola.

The communique expresses the mutual will to strengthen bilateral cooperation ties, especially in agriculture, education and tourism. [sentence indistinct]

Ramalho Eanes will be received in Dar es Salaam today by President Julius Nyerere.

ZIMBABWE

NAN INTERVIEW WITH PRIME MINISTER MUGABE

AB011109 Lagos NAN in English 1051 GMT 1 Dec 81

[By Adewale Fatona]

[Text] Salisbury, 1 Dec (NAN) -- The Zimbabwean Prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has said that his country would "resist vehemently" any attempts by aid givers to turn themselves into masters of Zimbabwe's political and economic destiny.

Mr Mugabe said that though Zimbabwe had received aid from many countries, it would safeguard its right as a sovereign state to chart the course of its destiny.

In an interview with the NEWS AGENCY of NIGERIA (NAN) in Salisbury yesterday, the prime minister defended his acceptance of aid from both the East and West, saying that it had placed Zimbabwe in a unique position to see certain actions of the world powers which were prejudicial to international peace and security.

Mr Mugabe, who received the bulk of the support for his liberation struggle from China and Eastern European countries, and a considerable part of the postindependence reconstruction aid from Western countries, said that Zimbabwe had not received, and would not receive, aid with strings.

"We believe that in our situation, as indeed in any situation of a Third World country, it is desirable that we be nonaligned", he said.

Mr Mugabe said that under Zimbabwe's prevailing political circumstances, racial seats could not be abolished from the country parliament.

"Not that we accept the phenomenon of racial discrimination and racial representation. We reject that very strongly because we are committed to a policy of nonracialism", he stated.

Under the Zimbabwean constitution, the 3 per cent white population has 20 percent of the parliamentary seats and this was guaranteed for seven years at independence.

"The existence of those white seats does not prevent us from running our affairs or governing the way we want," the prime minister said.

Mr Mugabe did not, however, recommend this type of arrangement as a solution for overcoming the thorny constitutional issues bogging down Namibia's independence.

He said that the situation in Namibia was different from that of Zimbabwe before independence. The Namibian people, he went on, should be allowed to reach their own solution within their own circumstances.

To a question on the Lancaster House accord, the prime minister denied that the Patriotic Front Alliance (ZANU and ZAPU) was forced by the frontline states to accept any changes during the 1979 constitutional talks leading to his country's independence.

Mr Mugabe said that Zimbabwe would not honour debts to South Africa which were incurred by the Smith and Muzorewa regimes for military equipment supplied to them.

The Lancaster House agreement, among other things, provides for reimbursing South Africa war debts of about naira 370.5 million.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON NAMIBIA, SWAPO COOPERATION

EA031148 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] The African frontline states of southern Africa will reject any settlement that will make Namibia a client state of any country or group of countries, Zimbabwean Foreign Affairs Minister Comrade Witness Mangwende said on Monday.

Speaking at a reception to honor Yugoslav's national day, Comrade Mangwende said that the frontline states of Angola, Zambia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Botswana and Zimbabwe have formed their own proposals regarding Namibia, in response to the suggestions made last month by the Western so-called contact group of United States, France, Britain, West Germany and Canada.

The foreign minister of Zimbabwe further said that the frontline states worked with the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia -- the sole authentic representative of the oppressed Namibian people -- to make sure that the Western group's initiation did not alter the UN Resolution 435, which calls for democratic elections in Namibia, to end racist minority rule in the territory.

In close collaboration with SWAPO, we have formulated our own counter-proposals to those presented by the Western five, Comrade Mangwende said. Our proposals do not deviate from, modify or dilute Resolution 435. We are determined that any solution to the problem of Namibia must lead to a truly independent Namibia in 1982, the foreign minister of Zimbabwe pointed out.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER MUZOREWA SCORES MUGABE

LD011012 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Bishop Abel Muzorewa has used his first opportunity to address a public rally since government curbs on opposition meetings to denounce the proposal of a one-party state. Addressing some 2,000 supporters in Bulawayo, he said a one-party state would create a nation of sheep. Just as people wore different clothes, Zimbabweans had a constitutional freedom to associate with whomever they choose. This was one of the basic human rights and Zimbabweans should fight to safeguard it.

Bishop Muzorewa said that if the Patriotic Front could unite with other parties that were against the one-party state they could successfully prevent it. The bishop blamed the socialist government of the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, for the present shortage of petrol, sugar and cooking oil in Zimbabwe as well as for the rising inflation. Bishop Muzorewa again denied allegations by Mr Mugabe that he was cooperating with alleged attempts by South Africa to destabilize Zimbabwe through economic sabotage. Specifically, Mr Mugabe has claimed that some 5,000 auxiliary soldiers loyal to the bishop were being trained in South Africa to infiltrate Zimbabwe as saboteurs and guerrillas. Bishop Muzorewa said Mr Mugabe had told him face to face that he was satisfied there was no basis for these allegations. He added: It now surprises me that Mr Mugabe should repeat the allegation.